

WORLD YOUTH ALLIANCE BOOK LIST

Brave New Family

By G.K. Chesterton

G.K. Chesterton is one of the greatest defenders of the family, and especially of the modern family, which often feels alone in the midst of corporations and governmental regulations. Brave New Family, a collection of Chesterton's writings on "men and women, children, sex, divorce, marriage and the family," challenges the reader to reconsider their own perceptions of the home, family and themselves.

About G.K. Chesterton

Gilbert Keith Chesterton was born in 1874 in London, England. He began work in 1896 with a London publisher. His first book, a collection of poems, was published in 1900. Following a period of skepticism and depression during his youth, he renewed his Christian faith, and he married in 1901. His marriage produced no children.

Chesterton was one of the most prolific writers of all time. He wrote thousands of essays for the London newspapers on virtually every subject imaginable. He was the author of over one hundred books and wrote contributions for more than 200 more. His writings cover history, philosophy, literary criticism, political and social theories, and Christian apologetics. In addition, he wrote poetry, plays, novels, biographies and even popular detective fiction. Chesterton died in 1936.

Guide questions for discussion groups

- Which essay/article/story from Brave New World stood out for you the most? Why?
- Describe Chesterton based only on your reading of Brave New Family.
- What does family mean to you?

- How might families be protected from the “assassins” that attack it?
- What challenges does Chesterton pose to the family, society and individuals?
- Discuss the place of women in society and family.
- Do you agree with the thesis presented in Chesterton’s book? Discuss your answers.
- How relevant are Chesterton’s ideas to the expression of family in your culture?