



Unbroken Homes: Single-Parent Mothers Tell Their Stories

J Dianne Garner, Wendy A Paterson

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Unbroken Homes: Single-Parent Mothers Tell Their Stories J Dianne Garner, Wendy A Paterson Explore the real-life triumphs and tragedies of single-parent mothers! Unbroken Homes is a "story quilt" of personal narratives constructed from in-depth, case study interviews of five single-parent mothers. The book chronicles their journeys as mothers, daughters, and women, in relationships and in solitude, displaying their stories in their own words like the squares of a multicolored quilt. Unbroken Homes breaks through the stigma associated with "broken homes" and provides a new perspective on the reorganization of American families. Unbroken Homes encourages you to rethink some damaging stereotypical assumptions about children from single-mother headed homes. Drawing information from family research, counseling, and a cross-section of social sciences, this book is pertinent to any professional who works with single parents or their children. Unbroken Homes does not deal with what is "typical" in the single-parenting experience, nor does it give advice or proselytize. Rather, its purpose is to discover the meaning that single-parent mothers bring to their own lives, helping you to understand the dynamics of single-parent families from a uniquely personal perspective. In Unbroken Homes you will witness the ways that these women:

- experience the ill effects of gender role socialization
- work to overcome stigma
- redefine ideals for family life and gender expectations
- balance responsibilities in and outside of their homes
- stretch finances to meet the needs of their families
- regain strength and self-confidence
- encourage their children's development
- affirm the strength of their families
- cope with depression
- develop networks of support

This intensely personal collection of women's stories and reflections is a must read for everyone who seeks a better understanding of divorce, single-parenting, and being alone, from an insider's perspective.



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