



A HISTORY OF MODERN ADULTHOOD

THE PRIME OF LIFE

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MINTZ

Steven Mintz

The Prime of Life: A History of Modern Adulthood



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Adulthood today is undergoing profound transformations. People at midlife struggle to sustain romantic relationships with friends and partners, to find work and fulfilling careers, to raise their children successfully, also to resist the aging process. Men and women wait until their thirties to marry, have kids, and establish full-time careers, occupying a prolonged period in which they are no more adolescents but nonetheless lack the traditional emblems of adult identity. Coming of age hasn't been easy or predictable, Steven Mintz shows, and the process is definitely formed by gender and course. *The Prime of Existence* puts today's challenges into new perspective by exploring how past generations navigated the passage to maturity, achieved intimacy and connection, raised children, sought meaning in work, and taken care of immediately loss. But whereas adulthood once meant culturally-prescribed functions and relationships, the social and financial convulsions of the last sixty years have got transformed it fundamentally, tearing up these shared scripts and departing adults to fashion meaning and coherence within an increasingly individualistic lifestyle. Emphasizing adulthood's joys and fulfillments along with its frustrations and regrets, he shows how cultural and traditional circumstances have consistently reshaped what this means to end up being a developed in contemporary society. Mintz reconstructs the emotional interior of a existence stage all too often relegated to self-help books and domestic melodramas. *The Primary of Existence* urges us to confront adulthood's realities with candor and determination and to value and embrace the duty, practical judgment, wisdom, and compassionate understanding it could bring.



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great first few chapters though Started out strong and then kinda just kept heading on.. Also if we do have the capability to reflect, perhaps we ought to be looking for fresh possibilities;great first few chapters though! To judge any adult life by today's conservative definition of "marriage, family and function" is both harming and intensely limiting, an observation which Mintz's specifics make abundantly clear. Finally, the reality About Adulthood The book might not be a page-turner, about which some people seem to be complaining, but its premise couldn't become more profound: "Adulthood" isn't a fixed definition by which to judge ourselves, but an ever-changing, highly diverse set of life experiences that varies from person to person, culture to culture, and century to century. by attempting to cover four hundred years of family lifestyle in three hundred webpages, he summons up a wealth of evidence but remains short on evaluation..a yardstick by which all trends and public movements are measured [suggests] not only an harmful romanticizing of this era but a collective aversion to cultural complexity - one that affects everything from national plan to individual self-esteem.." These are not my phrases, but Meghan Daum's, in her overview of the publication in the New York Instances. I couldn't have stated it better myself. Five Stars This book is a great source for my research! many adults have neither the time nor the chance to create such reflections, because they struggle to endure in economically stringent moments. Sometimes it feels as if he provides sacrificed originality for comprehensiveness;And yet the publication remains something of a disappointment. Perhaps that is because of the familiarity of the subject-matter: most of the topics protected in THE Primary OF LIFE have been covered by authors past and within a form of discourse a lot more lively than Mintz's rather pedestrian prose. Through a series of elegantly researched chapters, Mintz targets different aspects of this issue, including adolescence, youthful adulthood, relationship, alternatives to marriage, family lifestyle, different constructions of family, and the ways in which human beings have got coped with the wok/leisure divide. More importantly, to use this narrow-minded description as ".Perhaps the disappointment is also because of a certain amount of cross-cultural myopia. most of the elements he identifies are normal to families worldwide.THE PRIME OF Lifestyle is a good dipping-book but rather a tiresome read all together. Although specifically centered on American family existence, Mintz could have produced more comparisons with additional countries - not just Great Britain, but other European and Asian countries as well.Or maybe it's because of the final outcome - after 3 hundred webpages of closely-worded argument, he advises those in late maturity to set aside their complications and look rather at the positive sides of their lives; their ability to make sense of the world through encounter, and their feeling that they have achieved something. These suggestions seems banal, to state the least; Chronicling Four 100 Years of American Family members Life THE PRIME OF LIFE addresses an ambitious canvas, as it attempts to tell the tale of the socially-produced concept of adulthood from the seventeenth century to the present.. quite simply, rediscovering our childlike capacity for wonder, rather than trusting in our experience. Sometimes his promises to uniqueness about American family life seem rather hollow;



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