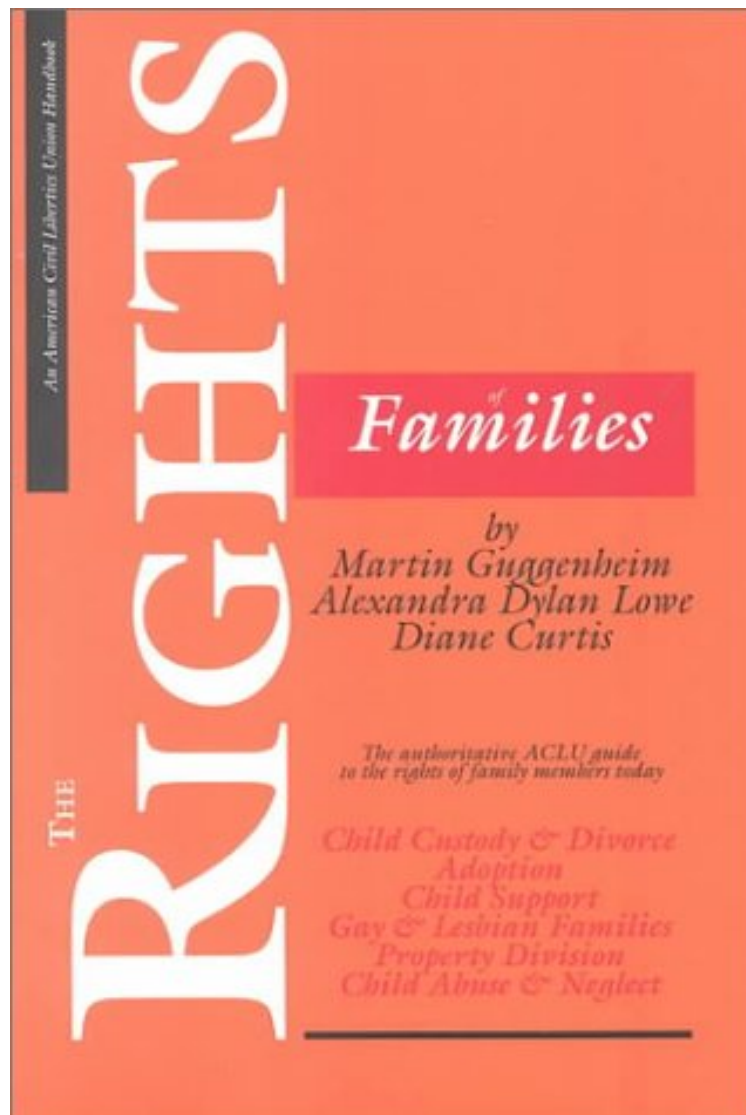


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The Rights of Families: The Authoritative ACLU Guide to the Rights of Family Members Today (ACLU Handbook)

Martin Guggenheim

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Martin Guggenheim : The Rights of Families: The Authoritative ACLU Guide to the Rights of Family Members Today (ACLU Handbook) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rights of Families: The Authoritative ACLU Guide to the Rights of Family Members Today (ACLU Handbook):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Teen Rights Expert Praises ACLU Family Legal GuideBy kathleen.hempelman@azbar.orgAdults and teens interested in their legal rights as family members will discover in this fine book that the ACLU is truly interested in their personal welfare, and that it wants to educate them on their rights both as American citizens and as family members. The book is nonpartisan. All ACLU books relating to civil rights are first rate and very satisfying to read. Martin Guggenheim, the author of this work, is a national figure in the area of civil rights law. After consulting this work - in QA format - consider reading other ACLU books for invaluable information about American civil rights law.

In this new ACLU handbook, the authors use a simple question-and-answer format to clearly and concisely explain the legal rights of members of todays rapidly changing families.Family law over the last quarter of a century has undergone a revolution. Stepparents, adoptive parents, foster parents, single parents, grandparents, and gay parents have come forward to challenge the traditional definition of a family based on blood ties alone. Once taboo, divorce has shed its social stigma, leading to new laws regarding the division of property and alimony among divorced people. And increased national attention has been focused on abuse and neglect of children in their homes.This book is designed to help readers understand where the law now stands.Part 1 looks at the human and financial consequences of a married couples divorce or the separation of unmarried partners, describing the law in such areas as child custody, visitation, child support, property division, and alimony. Part 2 looks at the law that applies when the state intervenes either temporarily or permanently to protect children from harm by their parents. Part 3 looks at how families are formed, especially families that differ from the traditional nuclear family: adoptive, gay and lesbian, and single-parent families as well as families headed by a grandparent.Few areas of law have changed more rapidly than family law. This is the best guide available for up-to-date information and advice.

"At an earlier time in this countrys history, the courts and society in general had a clear, if narrow, conception of how a family was formed: men and women married and conceived children together. Divorce was relatively uncommon and required proof of marital misconduct. Children born out-of-wedlock had few if any rights. Women had little or no control over the bearing of children. Adoption was controlled by adoption agencies and was, in most families, a closely guarded secret. Gays and lesbians stayed in the closet. The right of children to be protected from physical abuse or neglect by their parents was barely articulated. In vitro fertilization, surrogate parenting, and other complex reproductive technologies were unheard of."from the Introduction