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The different meanings of cohabitation across Europe

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This book provides a cross-national comparative study of the diverse meanings of unmarried cohabitation in contemporary Europe. It offers an up to date analysis of patterns and trends of unmarried cohabitation across a number of European countries and analyzes how cohabiters differ in their reasons and motives to live together without being married.

The study shows how the types of cohabitation relate to cohabiters' plans to have children, the way they manage money and their subsequent relationship transitions. It also identifies country differences in the mix of meanings of cohabitation and the association between these meanings and relationship outcomes.

The book is of interest to family sociologists and social demographers who aim at understanding the changing role of unmarried cohabitation in union and family formation processes from a European perspective.

Nicole Hiekel conducted this research at the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI, The Hague).

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