# CONTENTS

 Preface vii  
 *Linda J. Demaine*  

 Introduction: The Door to the Family Home 1  

 1. Barriers to Marriage 11  

 2. Leading Up to Marriage and Family 28  

 3. Getting, Being, and Staying Married 42  

 4. Becoming a Parent and “Making” a Family 58  

 5. Parenthood and Other Caregiving 79  

 6. Dissolution of Marriage 101  

 7. Child Custody, Visitation, and Support 122  

 8. Intimate Partner Violence, Child Maltreatment, and Elder Maltreatment 139  

 Conclusion: Closing the Door to the Family Home 155  

 *Acknowledgments* 159  

 *Notes* 161  

 *Index* 225  

 *About the Author* 233