# Contents

1 Introduction and Methodology ........................................... 1
   References ........................................................................ 4

2 Societal, Educational, and Occupational Changes ...................... 7
   References ........................................................................ 12

3 Parents ................................................................................ 15
   3.1 The Changing Role of Parents ........................................ 15
   3.2 Qualitative Data on Parents .......................................... 17
      3.2.1 Closer to Mothers and More Conflict with Fathers ........ 17
      3.2.2 Less Relationship Conflict Presently ....................... 18
      3.2.3 Parental Marital Conflict Permeating the Child-Parent Relationship .............................................. 19
      3.2.4 Disliking Being Treated Like a Child ...................... 20
      3.2.5 General Good Relationships .................................. 22
      3.2.6 Talking Through Conflict with Parents ................. 23
   References ........................................................................ 23

4 Siblings .............................................................................. 25
   4.1 Changes in the Relationship ......................................... 25
   4.2 Outcomes of Sibling Relationships ................................ 28
   4.3 Gender Differences in the Sibling Relationships .............. 30
   4.4 Qualitative Data on Siblings ......................................... 30
      4.4.1 Change in the Relationship Due to Time and Transitions 30
      4.4.2 Variability Due to Family Constellation .................. 31
      4.4.3 Difficulties Due to Divorce and Blended Families ...... 32
      4.4.4 Older Sibling Blame and Responsibility .................. 33
      4.4.5 Parental Punishment During Sibling Dispute and Disengagement as the Siblings Aged ................. 33
      4.4.6 Differences Between Parents in Sibling Dispute Intervention ......................................................... 34
   References ........................................................................ 34
5 Romantic Partners .................................................. 37
  5.1 Identity Formation and Dating .............................. 37
  5.2 Changes in Dating Patterns ................................. 38
  5.3 Changes in Mentality of Dating ............................. 41
  5.4 Functions of Dating ...................................... 42
  5.5 Gender Differences in Dating and Partner Selection ....... 43
  5.6 Qualitative Data on Romantic Partners ................. 44
    5.6.1 Maturation of Romantic Relationships ............ 45
    5.6.2 The Benefits of Being in a Relationship .......... 47
    5.6.3 Balancing Commitment and Independence in the Relationship .... 48
    5.6.4 Dealing with Challenges to the Relationship ....... 50
    5.6.5 The Difficulty and Importance of Communication .... 52
References .................................................. 55

6 Discussion and Conclusions ................................... 57
References .................................................. 60
The Transitory Nature of Parent, Sibling and Romantic Partner Relationships in Emerging Adulthood
Milevsky, A.; Thudium, K.; Guldin, J.
2014, VI, 61 p., Softcover
ISBN: 978-3-319-06637-0