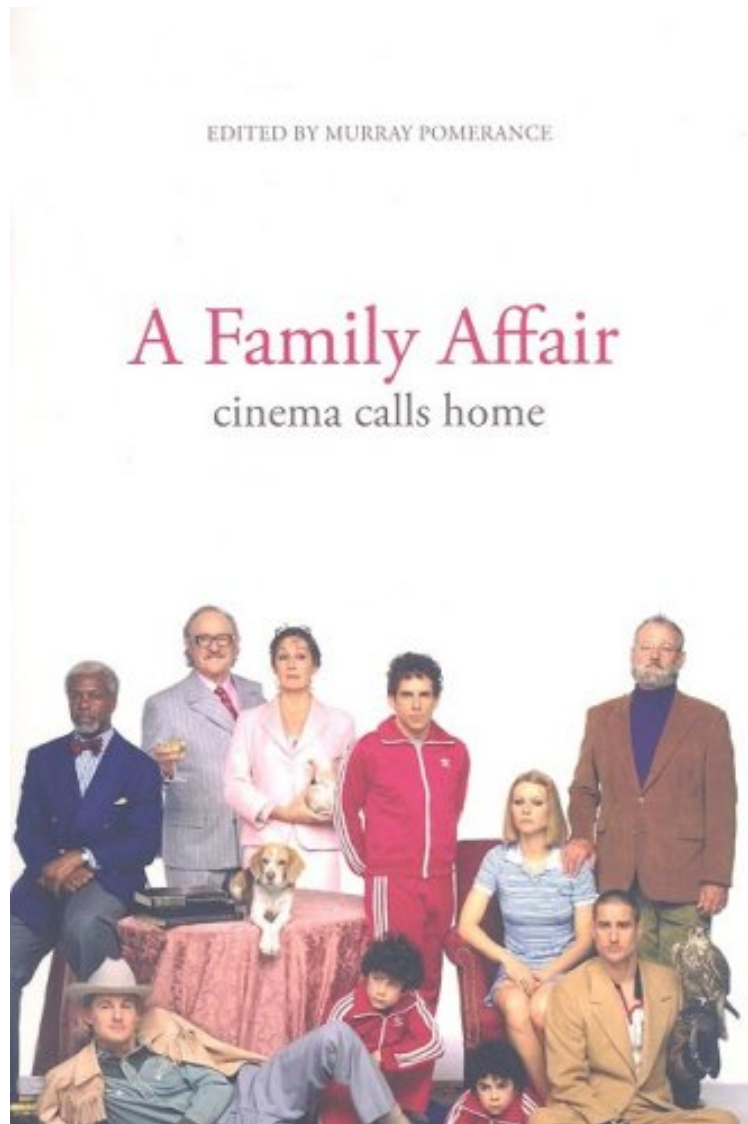


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A Family Affair: Cinema Calls Home

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The family unit has been a central theme in movies since the earliest days of the medium whether as a locus of domestic bliss, a dysfunctional source of drama, a collection of comic personalities or an inferno of repressed feelings. This new anthology brings the subject into sharp focus, collecting a range of multidisciplinary perspectives that

attempt to directly penetrate the questions raised by the role of the family onscreen. Discussing a wide range of contemporary and classic films, from *House of Strangers* (1949) and *Mary Poppins* (1964) to *Superstar* (1987), *The Royal Tenenbaums* (2001) and *Brokeback Mountain* (2005), this study addresses the nature of family values in cinema, and the 'family' nature of the Hollywood production system itself. With a wealth of historical background and contemporary analysis, this volume is a penetrating view of the oldest and most influential social institution as imagined for the screen.