



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

20% Discount *on this title*

Expires 31 May 2022

Church, State, and Family

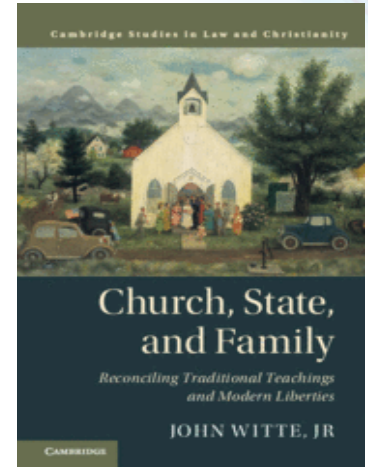
Reconciling Traditional Teachings and Modern Liberties

John Witte, Jr.

Emory University, Atlanta

This book defends the fundamental place of the marital family in modern liberal societies. While applauding modern sexual freedoms, John Witte, Jr also defends the traditional Western teaching that the marital family is an essential cradle of conscience, chrysalis of care, and cornerstone of ordered liberty. He thus urges churches, states, and other social institutions to protect and promote the marital family. He encourages reticent churches to embrace the rights of women and children, as Christians have long taught, and encourages modern states to promote responsible sexual freedom and family relations, as liberals have long said. He counsels modern churches and states to share in family law governance, and to resist recent efforts to privatize, abolish, or radically expand the marital family sphere. Witte also invites fellow citizens to end their bitter battles over same-sex marriage and tend to the vast family field that urgently needs concerted attention and action.

Introduction; 1. The first integrative Christian theories of family life: John Chrysostom and Augustine of Hippo; 2. Marriage as an office of nature and a sacrament of the church: Thomas Aquinas and Francisco Vitoria; 3. The marital family as social estate and covenant community: Martin Luther and John Calvin; 4. The domestic market: the family as matrix of modern economics; 5. The nature of family in seventeenth-century Christian thought: Hugo Grotius and John Selden; 6. The surprising liberal defense of the traditional marital family by enlightenment liberals; 7. The multidimensional family sphere: reconstructing traditional family teachings for modern liberal societies; 8. Why suffer the children? Overcoming the modern church's opposition to children's rights; 9. Why same-sex marriage should not lead to polygamy; 10. By the power vested in whom? What place for faith-based family laws in a liberal democracy?; 11. The dangers of private ordering; Concluding reflections.



May 2021

229 x 152 mm 456pp

Paperback 978-1-316-63612-1

<i>Original price</i>	<i>Discount price</i>
£27.99	£22.39
\$41.99	\$33.59

'It is hard to imagine a better researched, better balanced, more clearly argued - but also more charitable - defense of what John Witte, Jr calls the traditional 'marital family'. Witte a legal scholar of unique historical insight, here spells out clearly why a culture of 'stable monogamous marriages' harmonizes contractual, spiritual, natural, social, communicative, and economic realities - while offering special protection for women, children, and the poor of whatever gender, race, or class. It is a compelling book of landmark dimensions.'

Mark A. Noll,
McAnaney Professor of History
Emeritus, University of Notre Dame



www.cambridge.org/alerts

For the latest in your field

For more information, and to order, visit:

www.cambridge.org/9781316636121

and enter the code WITTE21 at the checkout