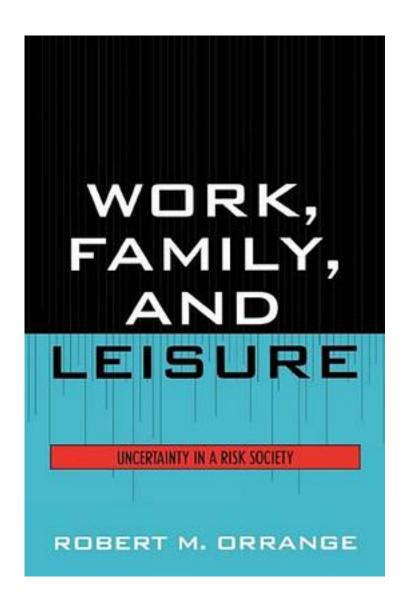
Work, Family and Leisure



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Work, Family, and Leisure explores the plans and aspirations of twenty-something law and MBA students for work, family, and leisure. Through in-depth interviews, Robert Orrange captures the hopes, dreams, anxieties, and fears that these professional-school students have about their own personal futures. By placing the study in the context of major late 20th century social transformations, Orrange illuminates the complexity and uncertainty of the life planning process in today's risk society. These future professionals expect to achieve solid success in their careers, but are wary of the demands and uncertainties associated with the big-time. However, the men and women also seem to hold asymmetrical views about equality in marriage, and some of the women envision that they may end up relying upon friends as a family support system. In spite of these uncertainties, most of these future lawyers and business professionals hope to derive satisfaction and meaning through their families, and they anticipate integrating leisure time with spouses and children as opposed to colleagues and clients. Their privatized images of the good life define a life politics that seemingly eschews commitments to the larger societal community-a stance that may prove unsustainable in light of the growing economic risks confronting the middle class today. In the end, Orrange argues that the professional middle class may have to emerge from their private havens and champion the cause of a good society for all if they are to preserve their own cherished way of life.

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