

The background of the book cover is a close-up, abstract painting of swirling brushstrokes in shades of blue, teal, and green. The texture is visible and dynamic, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Edited by Sybil L. Hart  
and Maria Legerstee

*Handbook of*  
**JEALOUSY**

Theory, Research, and Multidisciplinary Approaches

 WILEY-BLACKWELL

# Contents

[Contributors](#)

[Preface](#)

[Introduction](#)

## [Part I: Background](#)

[1 Jealousy in Western History](#)

[Notes](#)

[2 Loss, Protest, and Emotional Development](#)

[Attachment as a Monotropic or Polytropic System](#)

[Emotional Development](#)

[Meaning of Behavior](#)

[Protest over Loss](#)

[References](#)

[3 Jealousy and Romantic Love](#)

[Jealousy and Envy](#)

[The Personal Comparative Concern](#)

[Does My Partner Belong to Me?](#)

[Parental and Romantic Love](#)

[Jealousy and Exclusivity](#)

[What Comes Next?](#)

[Acknowledgments](#)

[References](#)

## Part II: Socio-Biological Foundations

### 4 The Ontogenesis of Jealousy in the First Year of Life

[Jealousy as a Dimension of Temperament](#)

[References](#)

### 5 Neural Structures of Jealousy

[Social Bonds and Separation Distress](#)

[From Separation Distress to Jealousy](#)

[Social Exclusion from Peer Groups](#)

[Conclusions](#)

[Note](#)

[References](#)

### 6 The Evolutionary Sources of Jealousy

[Utility of Animal Models](#)

[Basic Emotional Substrates of Jealousy](#)

[Once More: Is Jealousy Initially an “Objectless” Primary-Emotional Process?](#)

[Jealousy: From Primary Process to Tertiary Process](#)

[Levels of Analysis](#)

[Neurological and Gender Aspects of Jealousy](#)

[Jealousy in Animals](#)

[Toward a Neurochemistry of Jealousy](#)

[Evolutionary Reflections](#)

[Conclusions](#)

[Notes](#)

[References](#)

## [7 Sibling Rivalry in the Birds and Bees](#)

[Rivalry and the “Thrifty” Parent](#)

[Antecedents of Sibling Aggression](#)

[How is Rivalry Manifest?](#)

[Parental Manipulation of Sibling Rivalry](#)

[Do Parents Interfere in Sibling Aggression?](#)

[Conflict Resolution over Sibling Rivalry in Mammals and Birds](#)

[Conflict Resolution over Sibling Rivalry at an Evolutionary Level](#)

[Sibling Harmony and the Cost of Selfishness Birds, Bees, and Humans?](#)

[References](#)

## [8 Green Eyes in Bio-Cultural Frames](#)

[Cultures of Jealousy?](#)

[Continuities in Jealousy?](#)

[Biological Openness and Experiential Chains](#)

[How Much Love Does Jealousy Need?](#)

[Conclusions](#)

[Note](#)

[References](#)

## [Part III: Cognitive Underpinnings](#)

## 9 Social Bonds, Triadic Relationships, and Goals

Infants' Social Awareness During the First Year of Life  
The Concept of Jealousy  
Prerequisites for Jealousy  
Infant Reactions to Social Exclusion  
The Interpersonal Jealousy System  
The Emergence of Human Jealousy  
Preconditions for the Emergence of Human Jealousy  
Summary and Future Directions  
Acknowledgments  
References

## 10 Jealousy in Infant-Peer Trios

The Dyadic Framework and Its Limitations  
Early Intersubjectivity is a Form of Narcissism  
Inescapable Thirdness: Theory  
Toward Triadic Measures: Method  
The "Babies in Groups" Paradigm  
Theoretical Implications: Jealousy and the Development of Thirdness  
Conclusion  
Acknowledgments  
Notes  
References

## 11 Parental Reports of Jealousy in Early Infancy

Introduction  
Method  
Key Findings  
Discussion  
Conclusions  
Acknowledgments  
Notes  
References

## 12 Jealousy in Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

Introduction  
Jealousy: Basic or Secondary Emotion?  
Jealousy in ASD: Expression and Understanding  
Affective and Cognitive Correlates of Jealousy in ASD and Typical Development  
Social versus Nonsocial Examination of Jealousy  
The Expression and Understanding of Social-Complex Emotions in ASD  
Summary and Conclusions: The Theoretical Implications of the Understanding of Jealousy as a Secondary or Basic Emotion in Typical Development and in ASD  
References

## 13 Is Jealousy a Complex Emotion?

Introduction

The Development of Social Emotions  
What is “Complex” about Complex Emotions?  
The Case of Jealousy  
Identifying with Others  
The Case of Autism  
Conclusion  
References

## 14 What Is Missing in the Study of the Development of Jealousy?

Emotional Development: A Principle to Keep in Mind  
What Is Jealousy and What Is Its Importance?  
The Apparent Paradox of Early Jealousy  
The Behavioral Modes of Jealousy  
Implications for Empirical Investigations of the Prerequisites for Jealousy  
Acknowledgments  
Note  
References

## Part IV: Social-Emotional Foundations within the Parent-Child-Sibling Context

### 15 A Theoretical Model of the Development of Jealousy When Is Jealousy Displayed?

[Where Is Jealousy Displayed?](#)  
[How Is Jealousy Displayed?](#)  
[Why Is Jealousy Displayed?](#)  
[A Theoretical Model of the Development of Jealousy](#)  
[References](#)

## [16 Jealousy and Attachment](#)

[Introduction](#)  
[Attachment in Behavioral Genetic Perspective](#)  
[A New Approach](#)  
[Evolutionary Models of Attachment Security and Insecurity](#)  
[Findings from Sibling Studies](#)  
[Conclusions](#)  
[References](#)

## [17 The Development of Sibling Jealousy](#)

[Theoretical Background](#)  
[Sibling Jealousy and Rivalry in Early Childhood](#)  
[Sibling Jealousy and Rivalry in Middle Childhood](#)  
[Sibling Jealousy and Rivalry in Adolescence](#)  
[Sibling Jealousy and Rivalry in Adulthood](#)  
[Child and Family Correlates of Sibling Jealousy](#)  
[A Study of the Family and Child Correlates of Sibling Jealousy](#)  
[Conclusions and Directions for Future Research on Sibling Jealousy](#)  
[Acknowledgment](#)

## References

### 18 The Socialization of Sibling Rivalry

Contextual Determinants of Adults' Perceptions of Child Misconduct

Child Gender as a Contributor to Adults' Perceptions

Adults' Intrapersonal Reactions to Sibling Rivalry

Implications for the Socialization of Sibling Rivalry

Future Research

References

## Part V: Socio-Emotional Foundations within Other Eliciting Contexts

### 19 Family Triangular Interactions in Infancy

A Functional Perspective on Emotion in Triangular Contexts

Triadic Paradigms

Study 1: The 4-Month-Old's Triangular Competence under a Still-Face Condition

Study 2: The Infant as Third Party to her Parents' Dialogue at 3 and 9 Months

Discussion

Authors' Note

References

## 20 Culture, Parenting, and the Development of Jealousy

Jealousy as an Evolutionary-Based Phenomenon  
Cultural Antecedents of Jealousy  
Culturally Shaped Strategies for the Distribution of Parental Attention  
Parental Management of Jealousy across Cultures  
Conclusion: Cultural Models of Socialization  
References

## 21 Social Class, Competition, and Parental Jealousy in Children's Sports

Introduction  
Anthropological Approaches to Jealousy in Children's Sports  
The Attractions of Community Sport  
Inequalities and Jealousy in Community Sport  
Conclusions  
Notes  
References

## 22 When Friends Have Other Friends

Toward Conceptualizing Friendship Jealousy in Childhood and Adolescence  
Individual Differences in Proneness to Friendship Jealousy  
Origins of Individual Differences in Friendship Jealousy

[Friendship Jealousy and Intra- and Interpersonal Adjustment](#)

[Summary and Conclusions](#)

[Acknowledgments](#)

[References](#)

## [23 Jealousy in Adulthood](#)

[Theoretical Approaches to Jealousy](#)

[Appraisals in Jealousy](#)

[Attachment Style and Jealousy](#)

[Jealousy and Relationship Factors](#)

[Jealousy and Attributions](#)

[The Rival and Jealousy](#)

[Gender Differences in Jealousy](#)

[New Methodologies for the Study of Adult Jealousy](#)

[Concluding Remarks](#)

[References](#)

## [Index](#)

In memory of my grandparents  
Sara, Simon, Hannah, Herschel

S.H.

I dedicate this book to my parents  
Johanna (Ansje) Koreman and Pieter Legerstee  
(The Netherlands),  
my children and to all children

M.L.

# **Handbook of Jealousy**

*Theory, Research, and Multidisciplinary  
Approaches*

*Edited by*  
Sybil L. Hart and Maria Legerstee

 **WILEY-BLACKWELL**

A John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., Publication

This paperback edition first published 2013

© 2013 Blackwell Publishing Ltd except for Chapter 2 ©  
2010 Michael Lewis

Edition history: Blackwell Publishing Ltd (hardback, 2010)

*Registered Office*

John Wiley & Sons, Ltd, The Atrium, Southern Gate,  
Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 8SQ, UK

*Editorial Offices*

350 Main Street, Malden, MA 02148-5020, USA

9600 Garsington Road, Oxford, OX4 2DQ, UK

The Atrium, Southern Gate, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19  
8SQ, UK

For details of our global editorial offices, for customer  
services, and for information about how to apply for  
permission to reuse the copyright material in this book  
please see our website at [www.wiley.com/wiley-blackwell](http://www.wiley.com/wiley-blackwell).

The right of Sybil L. Hart and Maria Legerstee to be  
identified as the authors of the editorial material in this work  
has been asserted in accordance with the UK Copyright,  
Designs and Patents Act 1988.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be  
reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in  
any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical,  
photocopying, recording or otherwise, except as permitted  
by the UK Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, without  
the prior permission of the publisher.

Wiley also publishes its books in a variety of electronic  
formats. Some content that appears in print may not be  
available in electronic books.

Designations used by companies to distinguish their  
products are often claimed as trademarks. All brand names  
and product names used in this book are trade names,  
service marks, trademarks or registered trademarks of their

respective owners. The publisher is not associated with any product or vendor mentioned in this book.

**Limit of Liability/Disclaimer of Warranty:** While the publisher and author(s) have used their best efforts in preparing this book, they make no representations or warranties with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the contents of this book and specifically disclaim any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. It is sold on the understanding that the publisher is not engaged in rendering professional services and neither the publisher nor the author shall be liable for damages arising herefrom. If professional advice or other expert assistance is required, the services of a competent professional should be sought.

*Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data has been applied for this title*

ISBN 978-1-4051-8579-0 (hardback) - ISBN 978-1-118-57187-3 (paperback)

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Cover image: Johan August Strindberg, *Night of Jealousy*, Berlin, 1893.

Photo: The Art Archive / Strindberg Museum Stockholm / Alfredo Dagli Orti.

Cover design by Nicki Averill Design & Illustration

# Contributors

**Julie Wargo Aikins**, University of Connecticut, USA

**Marian J. Bakermans-Kranenburg**, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands

**Nirit Bauminger**, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel

**Aaron Ben-Ze'ev**, University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel

**Ben S. Bradley**, Charles Stuart University, Bathurst, Australia

**Joseph J. Campos**, University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA

**Audun Dahl**, University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA

**Ryan S. Darby**, University of California, San Diego, CA, USA

**Riccardo Draghi-Lorenz**, University of Surrey, Surrey, UK

**Noel Dyck**, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada

**Baila Ellenbogen**, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Nicolas Favez**, University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland

**R. M. Pasco Fearon**, University of Reading, UK

**Elisabeth Fivaz-Depeursinge**, Unité de Recherche-CEF, Prilly, Switzerland

**Scott Forbes**, University of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

**Christine R. Harris**, University of California, San Diego, CA, USA

**Sybil L. Hart**, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, USA

**R. Peter Hobson**, Tavistock Clinic and University College, London, UK

**Lisa M. H. Jackey**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

**Heidi Keller**, University of Osnabrück, Osnabrück, Germany

**Denise E. Kennedy**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

**Sara A. Kruse**, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA

**Bettina Lamm**, University of Osnabrück, Osnabrück, Germany

**Maria Legerstee**, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Michael Lewis**, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, NJ, USA

**Francesco Lopes**, University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland

**Gabriela Markova**, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Heidi Marsh**, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Tom Nienhuis**, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Jaak Panksepp**, College of Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University, Pullman, WA, USA

**Jeffrey G. Parker**, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA

**Vasudevi Reddy**, University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, UK

**Chloé Lavanchy Scaiola**, Unité de Recherche-CEF, Prilly, Switzerland

**Peter N. Stearns**, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA

**James Stieben**, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Marinus H. van IJzendoorn**, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands

**Brenda L. Volling**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

**Eric A. Walle**, University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA

# Preface

According to an Old Russian proverb, “jealousy and love are sisters.” This seems to suggest that both come from the same brain regions, and because love exists early in life, so might jealousy. Although accounts of infant jealousy date back many centuries, the scientific study of jealousy only started in the mid 1990s, generating but a paucity of information. The idea to address this shortcoming in a volume on Jealousy was sparked by very stimulating discussions I had with Joseph Campos and Sybil Hart at the International Conference of Infant Studies in Kyoto (2006), and again with Sybil at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development in 2007. The SRCD symposium was especially revealing. It suggested two important things, namely (1) that the preconditions for the emergence of human jealousy could be elicited during the first months of life; and also in older children with autism; and (2) that there was little systematic knowledge about its development and the factors which influenced its expression. While at SRCD, Nirit Bauminger, Sybil Hart, and I discussed what might be the socio-cognitive and socio-biological foundations of jealousy. How do environmental factors such as parental rearing practices affect the expression of jealousy and how does the age of the person and her culture affect the presentation of jealousy?

What we ultimately discovered was that because little scientific data was available on the *development of jealousy*, few people actually *believed* that jealousy could present itself during infancy as a normal expression against exclusion by a loved one. However, infants have an innate desire to form social bonds and jealousy could be seen as a reaction to the presence of one who threatens this social

bond. Would infants be able to perceive such a threat? If so, at what age and more importantly, in what context would infants express jealousy, and what would this reveal about the socio-cognitive underpinnings of jealousy? Another difficulty was that jealousy is not a single emotion. Jealousy is more appropriately labeled “a state” that one experiences and that, depending on the context, may conjure up emotions such as sadness (loss), anger (betrayal), fear/anxiety (loneliness), etc. Consequently, jealousy per se does not have accompanying coherent infrastructures in the brain and thus mapping jealousy onto a specific region is not possible.

It became clear that there was a lot of unpublished work out there that could inform about the development of jealousy in infants and children. I suggested to Sybil that we publish an edited book that focuses on the *development* of jealousy. We created the *Handbook of Jealousy: Theory, Research, and Multidisciplinary Approaches* to provide a comprehensive picture of jealousy, dealing with its functions, origins, and differentiation from infancy to its subsequent development. Twenty-one chapters and two commentaries chart how jealousy unfolds while also looking at the familial, cultural, cognitive, and biological factors that drive its development.

The *Handbook* is organized into five parts.

Part I: *Background*. In order to see how current understanding of jealousy has been formulated, it is important to put jealousy into context. Chapter 1 discusses social, cultural, and political trends during the twentieth century which gave rise to current thought on the topic of jealousy. Chapter 2 discusses issues which pertain to the interpretation of infants' responses that may indicate jealousy and distinctions between these and similar ones involving loss within social contexts that include attachment figures. Chapter 3 clarifies the importance of exclusivity in

adult romantic jealousy by distinguishing between jealousy and envy, and examining the sense of belonging and concerns over comparisons with a rival that are key components of jealousy.

Part II: *Socio-Biological Foundations*. The development of jealousy has a starting point and this section provides an account of the socio-biological foundations of jealousy. Chapter 4 explores facial affects associated with the presentation of nascent jealousy during the first year, and proposes a model in which jealousy is conceptualized as an independently organized dimension of temperament. Chapter 5 speculates on the type of neural structures that might be activated when infants experience social exclusion among loved ones and peers, thereby delivering a unique report on the integration of neuroscience and infant behaviors. Chapter 6 provides insight into the evolutionary sources of jealousy by suggesting that jealousy relies on learning and socio-cognitive abilities, but may have a head start as well, in that it is more clearly “prepared” to take on its core form. Chapter 7 examines sibling rivalries in non-human species, and modes of responses to intra-familial competition that may underpin human behavior among siblings. Chapter 8 provides a detailed commentary of the above works and reflects what a world without jealousy would be like—a world without an overriding desire for an exclusive relationship.

Part III: *Cognitive Underpinnings*. It has often been argued that because jealousy is a complex emotion, it cannot have its onset until certain cognitive prerequisites are in place. Chapter 9 establishes the existence of socio-cognitive prerequisites in the development of jealousy in infants, such as social bonds, perception of triadic relationships, and awareness of goals, and with a creative experiment shows that emotions of jealousy are observable early in the first year. Chapter 10 is suggestive of jealousy among infant-

peer trios, where vocalizations and gestures are being used in a seeming attempt to elicit or maintain the attention of a favored partner while in competition with a rival infant. Chapter 11 details rich parental reports on sibling interactions showing thwarting or open hostility toward a rival. Finally, Chapters 12 and 13 shed light on whether jealousy is a complex emotion with research on jealousy in people with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) who have emotional deficits but often only minor cognitive impairments to highlight what capacities are necessary for experiencing jealousy. Chapter 14 provides commentary on the previous chapters and highlights issues in need of attention and elaboration in order to shed light on the processes responsible for the development of jealousy.

*Part IV: Social-Emotional Foundations within the Parent-Child-Sibling Context.* Early presentations of jealousy often take place within the parent-child-sibling context. This section explores the manner in which these are presented, and how they differ with child characteristics, family dynamics, and parental attitudes. Chapter 15 proposes a model of jealousy's development through the integration of theoretical and empirical works on jealousy's presentation in different eliciting conditions, its functions and individual differences. Chapter 16 explores variation among twins in terms of attachment security, and reports findings which lead to suggesting that quality of attachment may be shaped by processes akin to jealousy that reflect sibling competition. Chapter 17 examines family correlates of children's responses to differential treatment and findings of research on sibling jealousy in a sample of toddler and preschool siblings during a triadic laboratory paradigm. Chapter 18 examines parental attitudes toward sibling conflict, how these are distinguished from those toward child misbehavior in other settings, and how they are shaped by concepts of jealousy as an expression of love.

Part V: *Socio-Emotional Foundations within Other Eliciting Contexts*. Chapter 19 details the young infant's awareness and involvement in social exchanges between mother and father, and the challenges of being faced by social exclusion. Chapter 20 sheds light on the evolutionary basis of jealousy before turning to a discussion of cultural conditions that influence the manner in which jealousy is expressed in Western and non-Western caregiving settings. Chapter 21 presents an ethnographic account and anthropological analysis of jealousy as it is encountered among children and youths involved in sports in Canadian cities. Chapter 22 examines friendship jealousy among children and young adolescents, as well vulnerability to jealousy in relation to child characteristics, including age and gender. Chapter 23 focuses on jealousy in adult romantic relationships through attention to factors that impact its elicitation, experience, and expression, including adult attachment styles, relationship variables, attribution processes, rival characteristics, and gender.

This *Handbook* tells the story of the development of jealousy. This story should be intriguing and important to everyone who is interested in the mind, brain, and in the development of love; in short, in what it means to be human.

I would like to express my appreciation to the wonderful scholars for their excellent contributions, which they produced in a timely fashion. The new scientific literature on jealousy depends, like any science, on the work of other scientists. I hope their work is acknowledged accurately through the inclusion of detailed and extensive end-of-chapter notes and reference lists presented by the contributors.

I am deeply grateful to my mentors and colleagues who gave feedback on the original proposal: Marinus H. van IJzendoorn of the University of Leiden, Alan Fogel of the

University of Utah, Stuart Shanker of York University, and Colwyn Trevarthen, University of Edinburgh. I also like to thank the very talented Christine Cardone, Executive Editor of Psychology at Wiley-Blackwell, who shared our enthusiasm for this project, and to Steve Smith who saw the project through. I further express my gratitude to the efficient and always gracious Constance Adler, editorial assistant and to Hannah Rolls in Wiley-Blackwell's Oxford office and Annette Abel for providing exemplary support to this project.

My ideas and research for this *Handbook* were supported by grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Canada (410-2006-2424), a sabbatical grant (2008) from the York Faculty Association, and funds from the Dean of the Faculty of Health.

Last but not least, a word of thanks cannot suffice to express my feelings for my family. To Anders Sandberg, author of many books, I owe special appreciation for so many things—not the least for his humor, and for reminding me that there is more to life than editing books. My daughter Johanna and son Tor showed interest in my writing, radio and television interviews, but refrained from providing impolite comments. Thank you all for caring!

Maria Legerstee, PhD,  
Professor,  
Department of Psychology,  
York University, Toronto

Canada Day, July 1, 2009

# Introduction

The word *jealousy* stems from the Latin, *zelus*, meaning passion, a term that aptly describes a common thread which weaves through the array of works presented in this volume. When unleashed by a competitor for a treasured relationship, jealousy can entail a level of ferocity and destruction so passionate as to have permeated some of the most ingrained features of prevailing cultural ideologies and to have inspired some of the most significant works of poetry of all time.

Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame. (Song of Solomon 8:6)

O! beware, my lord, of jealousy;  
It is the green-eyed monster which doth mock  
The meat it feeds on.

(William Shakespeare, *Othello*)

Yet, jealousy can also be recognized as a more subtle phenomenon, and one that can be interpreted in light of what may be considered its more pro-social function, as passion that drives ardor as well as goal-directed behavior that protects relationships and helps ensure survival. This side of jealousy has not inspired as much poetry, nor has it received as much investigative attention, especially in research using humans. To most people, its existence is, more or less, taken for granted. Seen as something so ubiquitous, if not inevitable, its constant presence in everyday life is almost invisible except to the exceptional poet.

Jealousy in romance is like salt in food. A little can enhance the savor, but too much can spoil the pleasure and, under certain circumstances, can be life-threatening. (Maya Angelou, *Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now*)

This *Handbook* started with questions about the darker side of jealousy, but did not begin to take shape until the importance of jealousy's other dimensions were brought into the picture. This gave rise to our overarching goal of embracing jealousy through more nuanced and balanced treatment, and specifically through the integration of three interwoven themes that are unique to this volume.

First, our emphasis is on jealousy in its normative form. Toward this end, chapters focus on forms that occur with some regularity, and on individual differences as a function of protective influences. Descriptive material, enriched by quantitative and qualitative approaches, on behavioral, affective, and bio-physiological norms, point to constituent components, processes, and substrates. In addition to carving out an empirical basis for answering the fundamental question, *What is jealousy?*, these observations give rise to further premises on which to base answers to the question, *Why does jealousy exist?*

A second theme pertains to contexts and conditions in which jealousy arises. Our breadth is unified by attention to contexts that are social, supra-dyadic, and include at least one individual that can be construed as an interloper or competitor; but these take many different forms. Several chapters focus on variations of the classic love triangle, and involve an individual, a beloved individual with whom a valued relationship has been established, and a rival; and where the beloved is an attachment figure, a romantic partner, or a best friend. Other chapters deal with triads in which a valued relationship has not been fully established. Still others involve triads that include more than one rival or

more than one valued relationship. Sometimes groupings are larger than a triad. Through varied approaches, we inquire into versions of jealousy that are widely known in different literatures as sexual/romantic jealousy, friendship jealousy, sibling rivalry, and parent-offspring conflict. We also touch on affect-laden events to which jealousy is tethered, such as social exclusion and envy. In doing so, we seek to open dialog across a number of disciplines and traditions, from anthropology to biology, with the aim of building bridges toward fresh insight.

A third and final theme pertains to development. Essentially, this issue is treated by asking: What actually changes, what doesn't, and how does change come to pass? Approaches, again, are marked by their breadth and reach. We consider patterns that are associated with differences in age and evident in phylogenesis. Others are explored via attention to samples marked by atypical affective and cognitive development. These patterns pertain to changes in goals, changes in sensitivity to different kinds of eliciting contexts, changes in the capacity to extract meaning from these contexts, and changes in affects and modes of response that are available to the individual. In line with prevailing views that change is more apparent during early development, numerous chapters in this volume focus on jealousy during infancy and childhood.

Most importantly, I would like to express my deepest thanks to Christine Cardone, Executive Editor of Psychology at Wiley-Blackwell, for her vision and enthusiasm for this project, and to Steven D. Smith for steering this project through to completion. The skill and attention to detail of Constance Adler, Annette Abel, and Hannah Rolls of Wiley-Blackwell are deeply appreciated as well. My heartfelt gratitude goes to Tiffany Field, without whose mentorship and generosity toward an unusual doctoral student a research topic as ambitious as infant jealousy would not

have been attempted. I thank Jacob Gewirtz for his wise insistence on caution and discipline in the manner of interpreting findings of research, Michael Lewis for having energized an intellectual climate open to interest in jealousy, and Joseph Campos for graciously providing a forum for the topic of infant jealousy at the 2006 International Conference on Infant Studies in Kyoto. To each and every one of the outstanding contributors, I offer my deepest gratitude for joining me on a venture into a largely uncharted area of inquiry through the offering of these fine works. Gratitude is extended also to Marinus van IJzendoorn, Alan Fogel, Maria Hernandez-Reif, and Stuart Shander for their helpful feedback on the original book proposal. Numerous others gave generously. In particular, I thank Linda Camras, Edward Z. Tronick, Ronald de Sousa, Bruce Cuthbert, Judith Fischer, Kazuko Behrens, Amy Halberstadt, Malinda Colwell, and Katrina Reyes. Funding provided by the National Institutes of Health-National Institute of Mental Health (NIH-NIMH) and C.R. Choc and Virginia Hutcheson is deeply appreciated. I owe a deep debt of gratitude to the many talented colleagues and students who worked with me over the years, and to the families and children who participated in the studies. To my own children, who gave this work both inspiration and meaning, no words can possibly express my profound gratitude.

# **Part I**

# **Background**

# 1

## **Jealousy in Western History**

### ***From Past toward Present***

Peter N. Stearns

Jealousy has a past—that is, it has been subject to significant change over time, which means it's a proper topic for historical study. Amid change, it also displays some interesting continuities within particular cultures—a common complexity which again means it's a proper topic for historical study.

Some stark contrasts are involved. Several of the most famous American trials of the later 19th century involved men who had killed either a wife or a wife's lover, and who argued (in several cases successfully, when they also could afford a high-priced attorney) that they suffered from a legitimate jealousy that simply overcame their will. Just a half-century later (we move to the 1930s), while a number of spousal murderers may have wanted to mount this argument (think of the possibilities, even later on, for O. J. Simpson), they got nowhere with it. Jealousy—in its legitimate power to overwhelm rational controls—had been reassessed, and effective law changed accordingly. We need emotions history to understand this kind of change and, through this in turn, to assess contemporary emotional formulations in terms of a trajectory from past to present. Jealous rage is not the only facet of this particular emotion to warrant historical analysis—it's not even the most

significant element in point of fact; but it does demonstrate the kind of dramatic shifts that invite entry to a historical project.

Emotions history, still a fairly new and somewhat tentative entrant, fills several needs. It helps explain why former behaviors often differed from contemporary expectations—when people defined grief, or anger, or jealousy by standards different from those of the present, it is hardly surprising that their patterns of action, even some of their basic institutions, differed as well. Emotions history, in other words, helps historians do their job of exploring the past. Emotions history can generate some good stories, providing some of the wonder that good emotions anthropology offers as to the amazing range of human responses in what might seem to be basic characteristics of the species. Above all, however, emotions history, particularly but not exclusively applied to the past century or so, illuminates current emotional responses and issues directly. By showing the immediate antecedents of a contemporary emotional pattern, there is a chance to seek causal explanations that purely presentist evidence would not permit; where significant recent change is involved, complexities may also be identified that might be difficult to discern, or certainly to account for, by using current data alone. Seeing certain emotional formulations in movement, from a prior point in time, adds a vital ingredient to emotions analysis, whether or not there is explicit interest in the past per se.<sup>1</sup>

At its best, emotions history also helps relate emotional standards and experience to wider developments in society. Examination of recent shifts in jealousy certainly requires attention to broader changes in family patterns and gender relationships. Emotional change responds to more general social currents, and adds new components to social patterns in turn. Contemporary jealousy is a revealing case in point.