

Place at the Table: The Gay Individual in American Society

By Bruce Bawer

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Bruce Bawer exposes the heated controversy over gay rights and presents a passionate plea for the recognition of common values, "a place at the table" for everyone.

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Place at the Table: The Gay Individual in American Society By Bruce Bawer Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
Conservative cultural critic Bawer's canny appraisal of the gay rights movement calls for a more equitable place in American society for lesbians and gays.
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From Library Journal
Positing that negative stereotypes of homosexuals are the result of both right - wing propaganda and the high visibility of "radical gay activists," Bawer, a self-proclaimed spokesperson for the "silent majority of gays," attempts to absolve "mainstream gays" of responsibility by criticizing "subculture-oriented gays," including but not limited to Donna Minkowitz, Paul Monette, Edmund White, members of ACTUP, and those involved in Gay Pride parades. This heartfelt if misguided meditation cum manifesto is provocative, but the author's self-righteous generalizations and misrepresentation of the ethnic, socio economic, and geographic diversity of American lesbians and gays, as well as the lack of either an index or citations for the many sources, undermine the divisive diatribe.
- *James E. Van Buskirk, San Francisco P.L.*
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From Booklist
In his third book this year (after *The Aspect of Eternity* , critical essays, and *Coast to Coast* , poems), one of the finest young American literary critics turns his lucid, fluent, and precise prose to what we've been told is the topic of the year, if not the decade--homosexuality. Homosexual himself, Bawer differs from the homosexual stereotype in that he is devoutly Christian, conservative, staunchly monogamous, and temperate. He believes that there are so many others like him that they constitute a virtual gay silent majority--silent both because temperamentally deferent and because the anti-homosexual religious right and the oppressive gay subculture, rife with sexual and political excess (not to mention, Bawer maintains, profound self-loathing), drown out all moderating voices. In the two meaty central chapters--more than half of the four-chapter book--Bawer first patiently, logically, and ethically critiques the attacks and refutes the charges of anti-gays and then analyzes the self-destructiveness of the gay subculture. Gays need civil rights, he concludes, particularly to have their domestic relationships recognized. This will remain a dream as long as the preponderance of gay spokespersons continue to taunt anti-gays and defend every excess of the most outr{,}e and rebellious elements of the homosexual community. Bawer will probably be roundly reviled and misrepresented in both conservative and gay media, but to read him is to confront a reasonable, moral, and personable man whose opinions and interpretations open-minded and moderate persons will find very compelling. *Ray Olson*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kathleen King:

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading behavior give you lot of advantages. The huge benefits you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book that improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind

of book you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with education and learning books but if you want feel happy read one along with theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. The particular Place at the Table: The Gay Individual in American Society is kind of publication which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Thomas Moore:

Many people spending their time by playing outside together with friends, fun activity along with family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by examining a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book will surely hard because you have to accept the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, taking everywhere you want in your Touch screen phone. Like Place at the Table: The Gay Individual in American Society which is keeping the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's notice.

Zoe Harris:

Is it a person who having spare time in that case spend it whole day through watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Place at the Table: The Gay Individual in American Society can be the respond to, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your time by reading in this completely new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these books have than the others?

Sherri King:

Some individuals said that they feel bored when they reading a publication. They are directly felt that when they get a half areas of the book. You can choose the book Place at the Table: The Gay Individual in American Society to make your personal reading is interesting. Your own skill of reading expertise is developing when you including reading. Try to choose very simple book to make you enjoy you just read it and mingle the impression about book and examining especially. It is to be initially opinion for you to like to start a book and go through it. Beside that the book Place at the Table: The Gay Individual in American Society can to be your friend when you're feel alone and confuse in what must you're doing of this time.

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