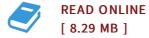




Creating and upholding a family in the institution of slavery

By Franziska Schulze

GRIN Publishing Jun 2014, 2014. sonst. Bücher. Condition: Neu. Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2011 in the subject History - America, grade: 1,3, Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg (Amerikanistik), course: Mixed Race in American Culture and Literature, language: English, abstract: In an encyclopedia the term family is defined as 'a fundamental social group in society consisting of one or two parents and their children,' and 'all the members of a household under one roof.' Many more definitions have evolved over time through social changes in different societies and have been focused on in cultural studies. In times of slavery in the U.S. blacks had to cope with their living conditions and in that still had the urge to create families. This often was made impossible right from the start because '[l]arge owners often refused to allow marriage[...].' Rarely, if ever, the family of slaves could be described as nuclear father, mother and child. The cause for the lack of a family was easily found. Eugene Genovese explains: '[M]any masters did not respect their slaves' family feelings and did not hesitate to sell them as individuals.' The physical separation or the fear of such made it difficult to...



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