

The Marriage of Church, Family, and Self:  
A Study of Early Marriage Among Latter-day Saint Couples

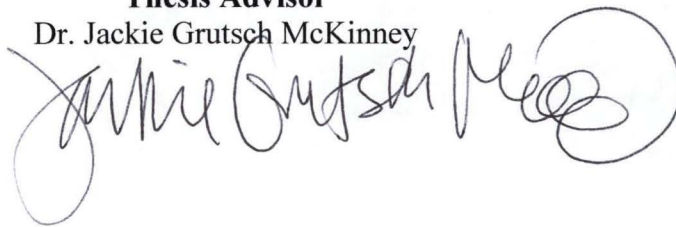
**An Honors Thesis (English 444)**

by

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Dr. Jackie Grutsch McKinney

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jackie Grutsch McKinney", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned below the printed name of the thesis advisor.

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Abstract

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is well known for its emphasis on traditional marital values as well as the common practice of its members of getting wed at an early age. Through a series of interviews with four Latter-day Saint couples as well as one Latter-day Saint academic specializing in marriage and family relations I have attempted to gather some of the thoughts, feeling, beliefs, and opinions that Latter-day Saints have concerning the practice of early marriage. I have also looked at their opinions about the current status of marriage in contemporary culture to gain a better understanding of both an aspect of the Latter-day Saint culture as well as a practice that, for many, is becoming outdated.

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