

A Thematic Study on Edgar Albert Guest's Poem *The Stick together Families*

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Abstract

In the poem in the stick together families, the author Edgar Albert Guest explores the advantage of Joint family and disadvantage of Nuclear family. Joint family makes to live happily and also to share their affection. But Nuclear family provokes lot of problems and lead children to the wrong path which is happening in present society.

A stick-together family is a poem written by Edgar Albert Guest. He is well known as People's poet. He was born on England in 1881. His famous works are Home, Father, Grandpa and Laughter. Most of his works are based on every day activities of men and women.

A Stick-together family refers to a joint family. Father, Mother, Children and grand children and grandparents live together in a joint family. They share their love and affection for one another. At the end of day, they use to sit together around the fire and chat happily. On the other side, a nuclear family consists of the parents and their children. In such a family everyone chooses his own way.

The children of a nuclear family starve for love and affection. So they get away from home and go to distant places in search of friends and happiness. In the end they come home depressed and dejected. They are filled with disappointment and frustration. So the poet concludes that living in a joint family can give them real happiness.

The poet brings out the difference in the attitudes of children living in joint family and nuclear family. The stick together families are the happiest of all whereas the brothers and sisters of nuclear families take separate ways. The gladdest people are the children from joint family who circle near the fireside. No power other than death can break their unity.

The gladdest people living are the wholesome folks who make

A circle at the fireside that no power but death can break

The rich and the poor folk imagine themselves to be wise and in the process they shatter their family ties.

There are rich folk, there are poor folk, who imagine they are wise,

And they're very quick to shatter all the little family ties.

Each of them goes searching for pleasure in their own selected way. They harvest only bitterness and find empty joy. But the wisest among them are the children of the stick together families. When the busy day is done, they share their fun together.

And the finest of conventions ever held beneath the sun

Are the little family gatherings when the busy day is done.

The stick together family wins the joy of earth. The old house shelters all the charm of life. The poet invites wandering brothers to come and join the stick together families have fun.

It's the stick together family that wins the joys of earth,

That hears the sweetest music and that finds the finest mirth;

Edgar Albert Guest discusses the importance of Joint family. Few years ago, our society is formed of Joint family. They can easily adjust and help each others. But at present, we can view many nuclear families, only few joint families. People follow a busy life and not having enough time to spend with their children in nuclear family. As a result children are having friendship with unknown and spoil their life.