

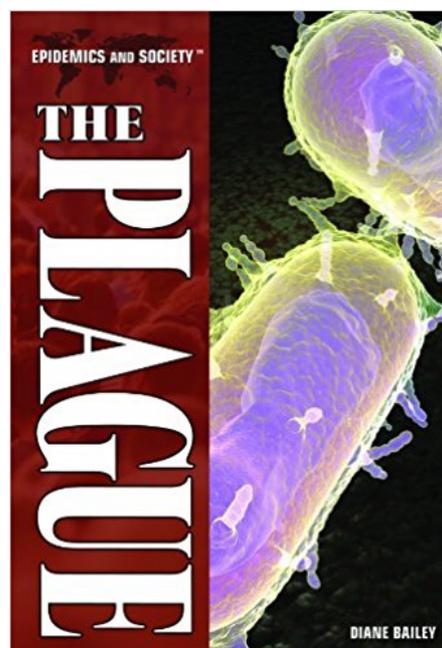
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Bailey, D. (2011). *The plague*. New York: Rosen.



The nature of marriage also changed, but again, not always in the same way. In some areas, there were fewer marriages. Perhaps the grim effect of the plague killed the desire to celebrate. Also, people did not know what the future held. Life had become extremely fragile. In some cases people simply lived for themselves. They did not think much about the next generation.

In other places the reverse happened. Instead of waiting until they were more secure in their lives, people got married even younger. They wanted to start their families and begin rebuilding the population.

The plague affected other family functions, too, such as inheritance. When a man died, his money and property typically went to his oldest son. After the plague, many of the oldest sons were dead, too. Now, younger sons—and sometimes even daughters—got to use this money to establish themselves.

