



## Becoming an Ex: The Process of Role Exit

By Helen Rose Fuchs Ebaugh

University Of Chicago Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 268 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.6in. x 0.6in. The experience of becoming an ex is common to most people in modern society. Unlike individuals in earlier cultures who usually spent their entire lives in one marriage, one career, one religion, one geographic locality, people living in today's world tend to move in and out of many roles in the course of a lifetime. During the past decade there has been persistent interest in these passages or turning points, but very little research has dealt with what it means to leave behind a major role or incorporate it into a new identity. Helen Rose Fuchs Ebaugh's pathbreaking inquiry into the phenomenon of becoming an ex reveals the profundity of this basic aspect of establishing an identity in contemporary life. Ebaugh is herself an ex, having left the life of a Catholic nun to become a wife, mother, and professor of sociology. Drawing on interviews with 185 people, Ebaugh explores a wide range of role changes, including ex-convicts, ex-alcoholics, divorced people, mothers without custody of their children, ex-doctors, ex-cops, retirees, ex-nuns, and perhaps most dramatically transsexuals. As this diverse sample reveals, Ebaugh focuses on voluntary exits...



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