



## The Family Dynamic: A Journey into the Mystery of Sibling Success Susan Dominus

Pulitzer Prize-winning staff writer for *The New York Times Magazine* and lecturer at Yale University.

### Lisa Damour, Ph.D.

Clinical psychologist, *New York Times* bestselling author, *Ask Lisa* podcast co-host, and regular contributor to *CBS News*.

**Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 7:00 PM CT**  
**Register: [www.bit.ly/DominusFANWebinar](http://www.bit.ly/DominusFANWebinar)**

### PLUS: After-Hours Event!

Purchase a copy of *The Family Dynamic* from FAN's partner bookseller The Book Stall to receive a link to an interactive "After-Hours" event hosted by Dominus and Damour. Details on the Zoom registration form.

**This event is #freeandopentothepublic and will be recorded. Suitable for youth 12+**

**Presented by FAN and 57 of our member schools and organizations.**  
**[familyactionnetwork.net](http://familyactionnetwork.net)**



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SUSAN DOMINUS – ON ZOOM**

**CONTACT:** Lonnie Stonitsch, Executive Director of FAN, lonnie@familyactionnetwork.net

**Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 7:00 PM, The Family Dynamic: A Journey into the Mystery of Sibling Success, a FAN webinar featuring Susan Dominus, in conversation with Lisa Damour, Ph.D. (FAN '19, '20, '21, '23). **REGISTER:** [www.bit.ly/DominusFANWebinar](http://www.bit.ly/DominusFANWebinar)**

An Olympic athlete. An award-winning novelist. A successful entrepreneur. All raised under one roof. What can we learn from those families whose children aim high and succeed, sometimes in widely varied fields? Just as important: What were the costs along the way, and what can we glean from their travails and triumphs?

In her new book, *The Family Dynamic: A Journey into the Mystery of Sibling Success*, the acclaimed Pulitzer Prize-winning *New York Times* journalist **Susan Dominus** offers compelling profiles of six such families in search of the factors that led to their success—was it an inherited quality, a specific way of parenting, the influence of a sibling, or a twist of luck? Inspired by the iconic Brontë sisters, whose remarkable literary success prompted endless speculation, Dominus, the mother of twin teenagers, sought out contemporary high-achieving families who shared intimate stories of their upbringing. She introduces us to the Chens, young parents who fled their country's one-child policy to open a Chinese restaurant in Appalachia—then sent four children to elite colleges and on to careers that give back in technology and medicine; the Groffs, whose claim to fame is not just an award-winning novelist but an Olympic athlete and a notable entrepreneur; the Wojcikis, whose daughters made inroads as STEM pioneers in Silicon Valley; and the Murguias, who rose from exceptionally humble origins to become powerful jurists and civil rights champions. Woven into these and other stories is an account of centuries of scientific research into the ongoing question of nature versus nurture.

Elegantly written and extensively researched, *The Family Dynamic* is more than a checklist of how-to's. It's a deep and moving exploration of the complexity of family life and the rewards—and burdens—of ambition.

Dominus will be in conversation with **Lisa Damour, Ph.D.** (FAN '19, '20, '21, '23), the author of three *New York Times* best sellers: *Untangled*, *Under Pressure*, and *The Emotional Lives of Teenagers*, which have been translated into twenty-three languages. She co-hosts the *Ask Lisa* podcast, works in collaboration with UNICEF, and is recognized as a thought leader by the American Psychological Association. Damour authored the monthly *Adolescence* column for *The New York Times*, is a regular contributor to *CBS News*, and created *Untangling 10to20*, a digital library of premium content to support teens and those who care for them.

This event suitable for youth 12+. It will be recorded and available on FAN's website and YouTube channel.

Sponsored by **FAN**, in partnership with The Alliance for Early Childhood, The Avery Coonley School, Avoca D37, Baker Demonstration School, Beacon Academy, Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School, Brickton Montessori School, British International School of Chicago/Lincoln Park, British International School of Chicago/South Loop, Catherine Cook School, Chiaravalle Montessori School, Chicago Jewish Day School, Compass Health Center, Countryside Day School, The Cove School, Evanston Township HS D202, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, Family Service Center, Foundation 65, The Frances Xavier Warde School, Francis W. Parker School, Glencoe D35, Glenview Public Library, Gorton Center, Haven Youth and Family Services, Hyde Park Day School, Illinois Student Assistance Commission, Kenilworth D38, Lake Bluff D65, Lake Forest Academy, Lake Forest Community High School D115, Lake Forest Country Day School, Latin School of Chicago, Leo Catholic High School, Libertyville D70, Lycée Français de Chicago, Morgan Park Academy, Near North Montessori School, New Trier High School D203, North Shore Country Day, Northwestern University Office of Neighborhood and Community Relations, Northwestern University School of Education and Social Policy, Pope John XXIII School, Regina Dominican High School, Resurrection College Prep High School, Rogers Park Montessori School, Roycemore School, Sacred Heart Schools, St. Bernard's School, Santa Clara University School of Law, Science & Arts Academy, Stevenson High School D125, Township High School D113, University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice, Wilmette Public Library, Woodlands Academy, Youth & Opportunity United.