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Sommario/riassunto	In this book the family life of the lower-class Creole population of 1 Paramaribo will be discussed. This group, which will henceforward be referred to as "the lower-class Creoles", possesses a "West Indian" family system, implying that the latter display all the main characteristics of the Caribbean Afro-American family. The Creoles constitute a numerically important ethnic segment of the society of Surinam. This society is composed of different ethnic groups, comprising, besides a handful of Amerindians, an "immigrant population" including people from many different parts of the world. It is made up of Creoles, Indians (or Hindustanis, as they are called in Surinam), Indonesians (Javanese), Chinese, Europeans, Lebanese and Bush Negroes, the latter of whom still live predominantly in tribes. The

Creoles are the descendants of those Negro slaves brought to Surinam from Africa who did not escape from bondage by running away from the plantations into the Bush, as their brothers the Bush Negroes did. The circumstances under which the bulk of the slaves lived were appalling. Nor were they - or are they still in p ~ at present - much better for their descendants the lower-class Creoles.
