Summaries

Sj. Groenman, The discontinuous conception of life.

The author gives illustration to his statement, that the geographical conception people have of their lives is not continuous but discontinuous. He argues that the home is the centre of man's world. His interest however in what happens outside his home does not decrease regularly in direct relation to the distance. On the one hand he has scattered nuclei of interest in several parts of his country or over the world, on the other hand there seems to be a structured pattern around his home wherein the most striking fact is the existence of a rarified zone between the entity home-family and a far greater entity such as a state or perhaps the world. We are interested intensely in let us say the engagement of our daughter or son, and apart from that in the marriage of princess Margaret or the king of Belgium. We jump from the own family directly to the nation or to the world as a whole. In the article this theory of the rarified zone is supported by data especially from the municipal, provincial and national polls.