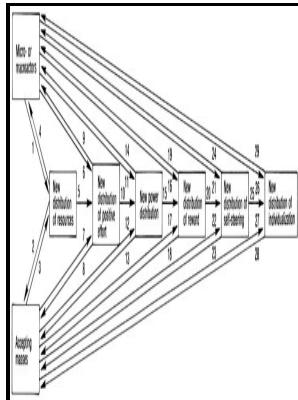


Bitter living - women, markets, and social capital in early modern Germany

Oxford University Press - EXISTENCE OF COLLECTIVE WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE VIEWED IN THE LIGHT OF HISTORIOGRAPHY REFERRING TO WOMEN IN EARLY MODERN WESTERN AND EASTERN EUROPE

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 Women -- Economic conditions -- Germany -- Württemburg
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 Notes: Includes bibliographical references (p. [353]-379) and index.
 This edition was published in 2003



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A Bitter Living: Women, Markets, and Social Capital in Early Modern Germany

By examining women's activities in a particular pre-industrial economy — the early modern German territory of Württemberg — it questions mono-causal explanations that ascribe women's economic position to reproductive biology, technology, or cultural beliefs. Making sense of this kind of idea — and understanding how to interpret it, when found in the historical record — almost



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requires the economic framework that underlies the interpretation. Since the 1970s historians have been redressing the longstanding omission of women from virtually all types of history.

A Bitter Living

The obviousness of this ploy has not, for reasons that escape me, reduced its popularity. Combining these results with the previous theories allows a comparison of all factors. She negotiates the intricacies over time of changing guild regulations which ones admitted women when, and on what terms in the Breton cities of Nantes, Rennes, Quimper, and Brest.

Introduction

. Review Date: 23 Apr 2015 This well-crafted volume of ten essays is an important contribution to the growing body of research on women and law in England the pre-modern period. Since the descriptions of a lingère's work appear to have been closer to that of a seamstress, she should perhaps be identified as the equivalent of a tailor.

Professor Sheilagh Ogilvie

'Guilds and communities in early modern Germany', American Historical Review, 109 2004 , 325—359.

How Does Social Capital Affect Women? Guilds and Communities in Early Modern Germany

The process of understanding develops through a dual process of highlighting the presence of women in economic activities traditionally thought of as 'male', like farming or business, and at the same time restoring traditionally female pursuits like housekeeping and needlework to the status of economic activities. Locklin's approach, by contrast, is systematic: she assesses all the women she can find in the various guilds, in different types of tax records which included many more occupations than the guilds, and many more women than the guild records , and in court rolls.

A Bitter Living

From the age of 21 in Britain and 25 in Brittany a woman, like a man, was a free agent for all legal purposes buying and selling, contracting, suing,

A Bitter Living

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