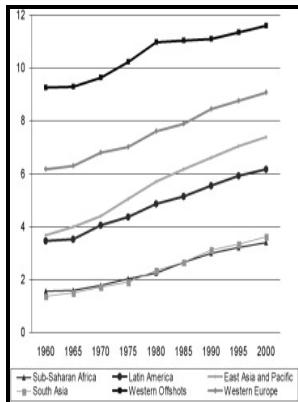


Marriage and patrimony in Sixteenth-Century France - the families of the Paris city councillors, 1535-1575

UMI - Theresa Earenfight



Description: -

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Paris City Councillors in the Sixteenth

See, for example, the January miniature in the Tres Riches Heures of the Duc de Berry.

Marriage and Family

Then one could hope to accede to the magistrature, to office as lieutenant general of the bailliages or offices of the sovereign courts, then to those of mattre des requetes and to the Council of State.

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These accounts of proper marriages and those marriages or the marital process gone awry are only a very small part of a vast and variegated record penned by the observant Venetian diarist. On the eleventh day of the present month, the feast of St. Victor van Ysemberghe, for example, who became an official in the Lille Chamber of Accounts, clearly descended from such a non-noble rural elite family in the district of Furnes.

Nobles, patricians and officers: the making of a regional political elite in late medieval Flanders.

Just how significant was the distinction between noble and roturier? The families of Hennequin, Palluau, Aubery, and Perrot all tended toward hereditary officeholding from the time they first achieved the rank of councillor in the middle decades of the sixteenth century until after the start of the seventeenth century. Rich Parisian merchants might not have turned so often from business to royal office had the profits of commerce been more certain and the risks less great. Only seventy-three mothers are known, so the figure in fact represents 42% of the known cases.

The 'Bourgeoisie Seconde', The Catholic League and Urban Society, French History

Three of the others were exiled for three years, and the one who was not a relative but a servant who, in all likelihood, had laid his hands on the child, was exiled for a ten-year period, and should this last miscreant be apprehended in violation of the exile, he should suffer, before the door of the house from which he seized the child, the amputation of his offending hand. The sweetmeats, confeti, were all sorts of preserved goodies to

complete digestion and sweeten the breath, spices to nibble such as anise seeds, cardamon, candied ginger, thin slices of fennel moistened with bitter-orange juice. All sixteen of the families that had four or more members in city office during the sixteenth century were represented on the city council between 1535 and 1575, and members of these sixteen families composed more than two-fifths of the total number of city councillors for this period.

How to (and how not to) get married in sixteenth

The sources on which I have relied most heavily—notarial records and personal papers—show few signs of tension between the Parisian elite and the groups above and below them on the social scale.

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