The concept of 'family' was also being narrowed to a patriarchal one, in which legitimate members shared ties of blood and women were subservient to the will of the male head of the household. The boundaries of this idealized domestic sphere were jealously guarded by the law. Domestic arrangements like those of the tawaifs, on the other hand, where blood relations and purchased members often lived together in close ties of kinship. were increasingly denied the privilege of being recognized as a family.