



The Holy Household: Women and Morals in Reformation Augsburg

By Lyndal Roper

OUP Oxford. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 310 pages. Dimensions: 8.6in. x 5.8in. x 0.9in. This is a fascinating study of the impact of the Reformation idea of civic righteousness on the position of women in Augsburg. Roper argues that its development, both as a religious credo and as a social movement, must be understood in terms of gender. Until now the effects of the Reformation on women have been viewed as largely beneficial--Protestantism being linked with the forces of progressivism, individualism, and modernization. Roper here argues that such a view of the Reformations legacy is a profound misreading, and that the status of women was, in fact, worsened by the Reformation. A number of themes are explored: the economic position of women in the household economy; the nature of civic righteousness and how it applied a reform moralism to the role of marriage and the household; the efforts of civic authority to reform sexual deviance; the attempts to control marriage and the breakdown of marriage; and the role of convents and nuns. The Holy Household is the first scholarly account of how the Reformation affected half of society. It combines sound application of feminist theory with careful, open-ended archival research...



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