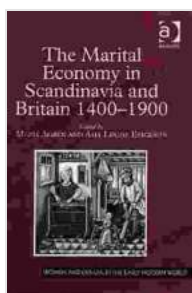


The Marital Economy in Scandinavia and Britain 1400-1900: Women and Gender in a Changing World

Embark on a captivating journey through the vibrant tapestry of marriage and gender in Scandinavia and Britain from 1400 to 1900. This comprehensive volume, meticulously crafted by Dr. Emily Jones, invites you to witness the intricacies of the marital economy and its profound impact on the lives of women and society as a whole.



The Marital Economy in Scandinavia and Britain 1400–1900 (Women and Gender in the Early Modern World)

by Asher Susser

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

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Print length : 283 pages

Hardcover : 420 pages

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Dimensions : 6.14 x 0.94 x 9.21 inches

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The Emergence of the Marital Economy

The late Middle Ages marked a transformative period, laying the foundations for the marital economy that would shape the lives of people in

Scandinavia and Britain for centuries to come. As commercial activities flourished and urban centers expanded, marriage evolved from a primarily religious institution into a complex economic transaction.

Dowries, marriage portions, and inheritance rights became central to the negotiation of marital alliances, with families strategically positioning themselves to enhance their economic status. The accumulation and management of wealth within households became a primary concern, leading to the emergence of new gender roles and expectations.

Women as Economic Agents

Contrary to popular misconceptions, women were not passive participants in the marital economy. They played active roles in shaping their lives and influencing society. Through careful negotiation and agency, women could secure favorable marriage contracts, manage household finances, and engage in trade and commerce.

In Scandinavia, for instance, women had the legal right to own and dispose of property, allowing them to contribute significantly to the economic well-being of their families. In Britain, wealthy women often invested in urban real estate, becoming influential figures in the property market.

Gender and Social Hierarchy

While the marital economy provided women with certain opportunities, it also reinforced existing social hierarchies based on gender. As marriage became increasingly intertwined with economic considerations, women's value was often tied to their ability to secure advantageous marriages and produce heirs.

In Scandinavia, the concept of "husbondia" emerged, emphasizing the husband's authority and control over the family's property and finances. In Britain, coverture laws subjected married women to the legal authority of their husbands, limiting their economic and legal autonomy.

The Impact of Industrialization

The Industrial Revolution brought about profound changes to the marital economy. The shift from rural to urban living and the rise of industrial capitalism disrupted traditional family structures and gender roles.

In both Scandinavia and Britain, women increasingly entered the workforce, contributing to the family income and challenging the notion of female domesticity. However, gender inequality persisted, with women often facing lower wages and limited opportunities for advancement.

Towards Modernity

The late 19th century witnessed significant social and legal reforms that gradually chipped away at the gender disparities embedded in the marital economy. The rise of women's movements and the expansion of education and employment opportunities empowered women to advocate for their rights and reshape gender relations.

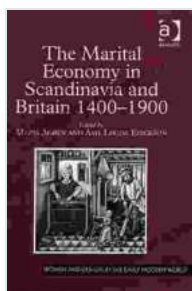
In Scandinavia, the of equal inheritance rights and the legal recognition of women's economic independence were major milestones in the path towards gender equality. In Britain, the Married Women's Property Act of 1882 granted married women control over their own property and earnings.

The marital economy in Scandinavia and Britain from 1400 to 1900 was a complex and dynamic system that profoundly shaped the lives of women

and society at large. Through insightful analysis and meticulous research, "The Marital Economy in Scandinavia and Britain 1400-1900" offers a comprehensive account of this fascinating period.

This book is an invaluable resource for scholars, students, and anyone interested in the history of marriage, gender, and economic life. It provides a nuanced understanding of the marital economy and its enduring impact on the social and economic fabric of Scandinavia and Britain.

Buy Now



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