

# Women's Work in Early Modern Europe

23-24 September 2010

Jesus College, Cambridge

## Proceedings

### Session 8

### Review of issues

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(thanks to Linda Oja)

In the concluding discussion, the following issues were identified as deserving further attention:

- the legal regulations regarding for example **married women's property**
- more details on **rural work**
- analysis of the labour market in combination with analysis of different kinds of **resources available to women**, including capital, the credit market, property rights in real estate and access to output markets (both in selling and buying)
- **change over time**, for example an increased specialization and changing time use
- **space** as an important factor to keep in mind when dealing with many different areas, while at the same time acknowledging that the differences we identify within Western Europe may sometimes depend on different historiographic traditions rather than actual historical differences
- conditions in **Southeastern Europe**

Following a presentation of Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk's idea of a common comparative project, these points were made:

- As many of the questions in the project are already studied by social anthropologists, their research could be very useful for us.
- A comparison including the whole of Europe should be structured (following for example population density, different legal frameworks etc.) to become more manageable.
- Several of the categories presented should be problematized.
- The question of a comparative project could be discussed further at the next conference which will probably be held in Stockholm in early 2012.