

Illegitimate Conception in the Pre-Revolutionary France (1680-1780)

Abstract:

The main aim of the thesis is to cover the issue of extramarital conception in Pre-Revolutionary France (1700 - 1789) through the so called *déclaration de grossesse* (formal declaration of extramarital pregnancy before the *Capitouls de Toulouse*). The thesis takes into consideration the various modalities of these administrative procedures in theory and practice with emphasis on formal and linguistic character of the documents. Essential functions and characteristics of the relevant legal regulations will be also described in the thesis based on their analysis.

Key words: illegitimate conception, pre-revolutionary France, 18th Century, infanticide, declarations of pregnancy, criminality, Penal law