Interest and emotion
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Interest and emotion

Essays on the study of family and kinship

Edited by
HANS MEDICK
DAVID WARREN SABEAN

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge  New York  New Rochelle  Melbourne  Sydney

EDITIONS DE LA MAISON DES SCIENCES DE L'HOMME
Paris
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 Contributors

ALAIN COLLOMP (1936) studied medicine in Paris and wrote his doctoral dissertation in medicine on the poet and playwright, Antonin Artaud, in 1963. Since then he has practised medicine in Paris and Nanterre. Beginning in 1970, he studied history at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, centring his interests on the history of the family. He has had numerous publications in the Annales ESC, Ethnologie française, and L’Homme. He will soon publish a work of historical anthropology on a group of villages in the Haute-Provence in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries: La Maison du Père (Presses Universitaires de France, 1983).

ESTHER GOODY (1932) received her PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Cambridge in 1961. She is currently Lecturer in Social Anthropology at Cambridge and Fellow of New Hall. Her books include Contexts of Kinship (Cambridge, 1973) and Parenthood and Social Reproduction (Cambridge, 1982). She has also edited Questions and Politeness (Cambridge, 1978) and From Craft to Industry (forthcoming, Cambridge University Press). She is currently interested in the problem of the relationship between systems of production and roles of authority, the relations of production in domestic groups, and the implications of technology for the division of labour.

HERBERT G. GUTMAN (1928) received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1959. He taught at the University of Rochester, the State University of New York at Buffalo, and the City College of New York. He is currently Distinguished Professor at the Graduate School of the City University of New York. His publications include: The Black Family in Slavery and Freedom 1750–1925 (Oxford, 1976), Work, Culture and Society in Industrializing America (New York, 1977), Slavery and the Numbers Game: A Critique of Time on the Cross (Champaign, Ill. 1975). During 1982–3 he held a chair in American Civilization at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris. He is presently engaged in a study of the relationships between class, immigration, and race in nineteenth-century America.

Vanessa Maher (1947) received her PhD from Cambridge in 1973. She is at present Professore Associato in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Turin, Italy. She has published Women and Property in Morocco: Their Changing Relation to the Process of Social Stratification in the Middle Atlas (Cambridge, 1974) and several articles on Morocco exploring the ways in which women experiences are constrained by and act upon their social, economic, and political environments. She was co-editor of a volume of Quaderni storici, 44, (1980) on child-birth and maternity. At present she is engaged in research on seamstresses and dressmakers in Turin 1930–55. She also has an interest in ritual and symbolism in relation to the ‘construction of gender’ and the impact of missionary activity on this field.

Contributors

David Warren Sabean (1939) received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1969. He has taught at the University of East Anglia and the University of Pittsburgh. He is presently a Research Fellow of the Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte. His publications include: Landbesitz und Gesellschaft am Vorabend des Bauernkriegs (Stuttgart, 1972), ‘Communal Basis of Pre-1800 Peasant Uprisings in Western Europe’, Comparative Politics 8 (1976), ‘Aspects of Kinship Behaviour and Property in Rural Western Europe before 1800’, in Jack Goody, et al. (eds.), Family and Inheritance: Rural Society in Western Europe, 1200–1800 (Cambridge, 1976), ‘Uneheligkeit: ein Aspekt sozialer Reproduktion kleindäuberlicher Produzenten’, in Robert Berdahl, et al. (eds.), Klassen und Kultur (Frankfurt, 1982). He is also co-editor of Political Symbolism in Modern Europe (New Brunswick, NJ, 1982). He is at present writing a volume on kinship and the family in a German village from 1700 to 1870 and a group of essays on the peasant concept of the person and community in the early modern period.

Roger Sablonier (1941) attained the degree Dr. phil. habil. in 1977 at the Universität Zürich, where he is presently Professor. His publications include: Krieg und Kriegertum in der Crónica des Ramón Mutamer (Bern/Frankfurt, 1971), Adel im Wandel: Eine Untersuchung zur sozialen Situation des Ostschweizerischen Adels um 1300 (Göttingen, 1979). His present interests include: rural society in the high and late Middle Ages, family in the Middle Ages, and medieval material culture.

Karen Sacks (1941) received her PhD from the University of Michigan in 1971. She is currently Director of Research and Information of the Business and Professional Women’s Foundation in Washington DC. Her publications include: Sisters and Wives: The Past and the Future of Sexual Equality (Westport, Conn., 1979). Her current research is on women workers and family and kinship.


Martine Segalen (1940) earned the degree doctorat de 3e cycle in sociology at the Sorbonne in 1970. She is presently a director of research at the CNRS, Centre d’Éthnologie Française, Paris. Her publications include: Mari et femme dans la société paysanne (Paris, 1980), Amours et mariages de l’ancienne France (Paris,
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1981), and *Sociologie de la famille* (Paris, 1981). She is presently engaged on research on kinship and marriage in the Pays Bigouden.


Andrew Strathern (1939) received his PhD from Cambridge in 1966. He is presently Professor of Anthropology, University College London, and Director of the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies, Port Moresby. His publications include: *The Rope of Moka* (Cambridge, 1971), *Self-Decoration in Mount Hagen* (with Marilyn Strathern) (Toronto, 1971), *One Father, One Blood* (London, 1972), *Ongka* (London, 1979). Current research interests are: social change, culture and development, and semantic anthropology.

Louise A. Tilly (1930) received her PhD from the University of Toronto in 1974. She is presently Professor at the University of Michigan. She has published (with Joan Scott) *Women, Work and Family* (New York, 1978) and ‘Paths of Proletarianization: Organization of Production, Sexual Division of Labour, and Women’s Collective Action’, *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 7 (1981). With Charles Tilly, she has edited *Class Conflict and Collective Action* (Beverly Hills, 1981). She has prepared with Kathryn Tilly an edited version in translation of *Mémé santerre* (forthcoming, Schocken). Her present research interests are: labour force formation and working class politics in Milan, 1880–1900, and a comparative history of the movement for reform and legislation on maternal and infant health in Britain, USA, France, and Italy from 1800 to 1930.

Preface

The papers in this volume were originally discussed at a Round Table between anthropologists and historians in Paris in June 1980. An earlier meeting on the subject of 'working processes' took place in Göttingen in June 1978, and some of those papers have been published in Robert Berdahl, et al. (eds.), Klassen und Kultur. Sozialanthropologische Perspektiven in der Geschichtsschreibung (Frankfurt, 1982). For both meetings and the production of books, the editors of this volume have cooperated closely with Robert Berdahl, Alf Lüdtke, and Gerald Sider. Our discussions would not have been possible without the institutional base of the Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte in Göttingen and the active support of its director, Professor Rudolf Vierhaus. Over the years, we have also enjoyed close contacts with the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme in Paris, whose director Clemens Heller has helped establish a fruitful international discourse. Our meeting in Paris was made possible by the joint support of the two institutions. Many of our ideas have been tried out first in discussion with Jack Goody, who has always been a close and helpful friend. During the preparation for the second Round Table, we were able to profit from the advice of Maurice Aymard. Without his help, the meeting could not have gone so smoothly. The essays in this volume by Collomp, Hausen, Sablonier, Segalen, Schulte, and Vernier were translated by J.C. Whitehouse and that by Medick by David Sabean. Stefan Mielke produced the artwork. We wish to thank Maria Pinkert, Brigitte Bartels, and Anita Kulp for the difficult job of typing the manuscripts and revisions over and over in various languages. While this book was in preparation, a version of the essay by Vernier appeared in the Actes de la recherche en sciences sociales (Jan. 1980); that by Collomp in the Annales ESC, 36 (1981). An earlier version of the joint paper by Medick and Sabean appeared in Peasant Studies, 8 (1979).

Göttingen, October 1982

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