This is a major new survey of the social and cultural history of sexuality in early modern Europe. Within a frame that includes the Renaissance, the Reformations, the Scientific Revolution, and the Enlightenment, it weaves together statistical findings, discussions of changing sexual ideology, and evidence of belief structures regarding family, religion, science, crime, and deviance. While broad in overall scope and coverage, the transformations are framed to highlight the narrative of change over time within each domain. By emphasizing the interrelationship between practices and ideological change – in family form, religious organization, medical logic, legal structures, and notions of deviancy – Katherine Crawford's accessible survey reveals how these changes produced the conditions in which our modern notions of sexuality were developed. This book will be essential reading for students of early modern European history and the history of sexuality.

Katherine Crawford is Associate Professor of History at Vanderbilt University. She is the author of Perilous Performances: Gender and Regency in Early Modern France (2004).
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European Sexualities, 1400–1800

Katherine Crawford

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Contents

List of figures page vi
Acknowledgments viii

Introduction 1
1 Marriage and family: the nexus of the sexual 11
2 Religion and sexuality 55
3 The science of sex 100
4 Sex and crime 143
5 Deviancy and the cultures of sex 189
   Conclusion: regimes of sexuality 232

Index 238
Figures

1. Anon., *Woman with a Broom*. Eighteenth century, Venice. Private collection, printed with the permission of the owner. page 2


5. Ulrich Molitor, *De lamiis et phitonicis mulieribus* (Reutlingen, 1489). By permission of the Huntington Library, Pasadena, California. 92


List of figures vii


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