This book traces the beginnings of a shift from one model of gendered power to another. Over the course of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, traditional practices of local government by heads of household began to be undermined by new legal ideas about what it meant to hold office. In London, this enabled the emergence of a new kind of officeholding and a new kind of policing, rooted in a fraternal culture of official masculinity. London officers arrested, searched, and sometimes assaulted people on the basis of gendered suspicions, especially poorer women. *Gender and Policing in Early Modern England* describes how a recognisable form of gendered policing emerged from practices of local government by patriarchs and addresses wider questions about the relationship between gender and the state.

**Jonah Miller** is a Research Fellow at King’s College, Cambridge.
This is a series of monographs and studies covering many aspects of the history of the British Isles between the late fifteenth century and the early eighteenth century. It includes the work of established scholars and pioneering work by a new generation of scholars. It includes both reviews and revisions of major topics and books which open up new historical terrain or which reveal startling new perspectives on familiar subjects. All the volumes set detailed research within broader perspectives, and the books are intended for the use of students as well as of their teachers.

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GENDER AND POLICING IN EARLY MODERN ENGLAND

JONAH MILLER
University of Cambridge
For mum and for dad
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This book took shape during a tumultuous period in the history of policing. Longstanding allegations of racism and misogyny have risen to prominence in the aftermath of widely reported homicides. For the first time in a generation, discussions of the fundamental nature of policing and its possible alternatives have attracted considerable media attention. This context has undoubtedly influenced the pages that follow. More straightforwardly, the book is a product of many conversations with friends, colleagues, and mentors. It began as a doctoral thesis at King’s College London, supervised by Laura Gowing and Hannah Dawson. I am extremely grateful for their unerring guidance and support through a project that became more complicated the longer it went on. For invaluable advice on turning the thesis into a book, I thank Mike Braddick, Laura Gowing, Cynthia Herrup, Mark Knights, Lyndal Roper, and Alex Walsham. For friendly criticism, discussion, and support along the way, I am grateful to Richard Bell, Dom Birch, Esther Brot, Fred Carnegy-Arbuthnott, Pippa Carter, Molly Corlett, Ben James, Charmian Mansell, Hannah Murphy, Joan Redmond, Charlie Taverner, Sonia Tycko, and Emily Vine. For references and research suggestions, I am indebted to John Baker, Alice Blackwood, Paul Cavill, Dave Churchill, Paul Halliday, Cynthia Herrup, Krista Kesselring, Bob Shoemaker, Brodie Waddell, and Tim Wales. The book has been much improved by comments from the series editors and from Liz Friend-Smith. Needless to say, all errors of fact or judgement are my own.

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### Abbreviations and Conventions

**BIA**  
Borthwick Institute for Archives, York

**BL**  
British Library, London

**CRO**  
Cheshire Record Office, Chester

**CUL**  
Cambridge University Library, Cambridge

**ER**  
*English Reports, Full Reprint 1220–1865*, 176 vols  
(Edinburgh and London, 1900)

**ERO**  
Essex Record Office, Chelmsford

**KHLC**  
Kent History and Library Centre, Maidstone

**LMA**  
London Metropolitan Archives, London

**LPL**  
Lambeth Palace Library, London

**NRO**  
Norfolk Record Office, Norwich

**OBP**  
Old Bailey Proceedings [oldbaileyonline.org]

**Seipp’s Abridgement**  
*An Index and Paraphrase of Printed Year Books Reports, 1268–1535*  
[bu.edu/law/faculty-scholarship/legal-history-the-year-books]

**TNA**  
The National Archives, Kew

Printed law reports are cited in the conventional format: case name, year in brackets, volume number, name of reporter, and page on which the report starts, followed by a reference to the same page in the collected *English Reports* in the same format. For example, Olive v Ingram (1738), 2 Strange 1114, 93 *ER* 1067. Quotations from reports in Law French are given in the author’s translation.