Family and Gender in Renaissance Italy, 1300–1600

This book studies family life and gender broadly within Italy, not just one region or city, from the fourteenth through the seventeenth centuries. Paternal control of the household was paramount in Italian life at this time, with control of property and even marital choices and career paths laid out for children and carried out from beyond the grave by means of written testaments. However, the reality was always more complex than a simple reading of local laws and legal doctrines would seem to permit, especially when there were no sons to step forward as heirs. Family disputes provided an opening for legal ambiguities to redirect property and endow women with property and means of control. This book uses the decisions of lawyers and judges to examine family dynamics through the lens of law and legal disputes.

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It takes something like a family, and even an actual family, to make a book. Certainly I have profited from a wealth of relationships formed over the years in completing this endeavor. I hope all these people do not find the bequest I am able to leave them too paltry an exchange for the rich endowments of aid and advice that I have received from them.

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Real family is what ultimately moves me to write books about other families from another time and place. Children and grandchildren bring smiles and a deep awareness of what lies in and outside of books. My wife, Teresa, has lived with this book as much as I have, notably taking thousands of photos of printed consilia for my use. She is the foundation on which our family is built.
Jurists

Anagni, Giovanni da (d. 1457) Canonist who taught at Bologna and active in politics there, until left a widower and entered the clergy, becoming eventually archdeacon of Bologna.

Bartolo da Sassoferrato (1313–57) Most famous jurist of the period. From a small village in the Marche, studied at Padua and Bologna. Took his doctorate in 1334 and taught at Pisa and Perugia, where he taught the Ubaldi brothers. Stunning legacy of commentaries and opinions that all after him had to take into account.

Benedetti da Capra, Benedetto (1390?–1470) Born in Perugia. Studied at Bologna with Giovanni da Imola. Politically active in his native city, where he began to teach around 1422, mainly canon law.


Castro, Paolo di ser Angelo di (1360–1441) Doctorate and first teaching post at Avignon. Also taught at Siena, Florence (from 1412), and Padua.

Cavallo, Pietro (d. 1616) From the Lunigiana. Worked in grand ducal courts in Tuscany.

Cipolla, Bartolomeo (1420–75) From Verona. Studied at Bologna with Paolo di Castro and obtained his doctorate in 1446. Taught at Padua from 1458.

Corgna, Pierfilippo della (1420–92) From a prominent Perugian family, doctorate around 1444. Political posts there during his teaching career. Taught for a while in 1470s in Pisa.

Corti, Francesco (1432–95) Born at Pavia where he taught from 1453, also acting as counselor to the dukes of Milan.


Maino, Giasone del (1435–1519) Milanese noble birth, possibly illegitimate. Taught at Pavia, 1471–85, then Padua, and back to Pavia. Famed humanist jurist Andrea Alciato (1492–1550) came to study with him.

Mugello, Dino del (d. 1303?) Tuscan by birth. Taught in Pistoia and Bologna. Involved with Boniface VIII in the compilation of the Liber Sextus of canon law.


Ponte, Lodovico da (1409–39) Brief but spectacular career. Doctorate from Bologna, taught in Florence for a few years (1428–31). The auditor of the Rota in Rome before going to Siena in 1433. Later Alfonso V’s representative at council of Basel, where he died.

Ponte, Oldrado da (d. 1335) Born in Lodi, studied at Bologna, taught for a while at Padua, practiced at Avignon.

Sandei, Felino (1444–1503) From Ferrara, where he later taught canon law (also at Pisa). Held various posts in Rome and was bishop of Atri and Lucca.

Sozzi, Bartolomeo (1436–1506) Son of Mariano the elder, began study of law in Siena around 1452. Taught in Siena and Pisa.

Sozzi, Mariano (elder) (1397–1467) Took his doctorate around 1425. Sozzi, Mariano (junior) (1482–1556) Sienese, known for the cautela soccimiana in fideicommissary substitutions.


Ubaldi, Baldo (1327–1400) Born in Perugia where he was taught by Bartolo and took his degree. Taught at all the leading universities at one point: Bologna, Perugia, Pisa, Florence, Padua, and Pavia.

Zabarella, Francesco (1360–1417) Canonist and cardinal. Doctorate from Florence in 1385, where he taught until 1390, then at Padua until 1410. Made bishop of Florence and cardinal by the antipope John XXIII.
Consilia

Angelo degli Ubaldi, *Consilia* (Lyon, 1551)
Bartolo da Sassoferrato, *Consilia, quaestiones, et tractatus* (Venice, 1589)
Benedetti da Capra, Benedetto, *Consilia* (Venice, 1576)
Bolognetti, Giovanni, *Consilia* (Venice, 1575)
Calderini, Giovanni, Antonio da Butrio, Girolamo da Torti, Felino Sandei, *Consilia* (Venice, 1582)
Cavallo, Pietro, *Consilia* (Venice, 1607)
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Statuta Ferrariae anno mcclxxxvii (Ferrara: Cassa di Risparmio di Ferrara, 1955)
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Statuti della Repubblica fiorentina, ed. Romolo Caggese, vol. 2: Statuto del Podestà dell’anno 1325 (Florence: Adriani, 1921)

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Mediolanensium statuta [1498] (Bergamo, 1594)

Montepulciano

Statuto del comune di Montepulciano (1337), ed. Ubaldo Morandi (Florence: LeMonnier, 1966)
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Padua

Statuti del Comune di Padova dal secolo xi all’anno 1285 (Padua: Sacchetto, 1873)

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Statuta antiquissima Saone (1345), ed. Laura Balletto (Genoa: Istituto Internazionale di Studi Liguri, 1971)

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