

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02324-6 - Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age: Heretics and Idolaters

Christine Kooi

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age

This book examines the social, political, and religious relationships between Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age. Although Holland – the largest province of the Dutch Republic – was officially Calvinist, its population was one of the most religiously heterogeneous in early modern Europe. The Catholic church was officially disestablished in the 1570s, yet by the 1620s, Catholicism underwent a revival, flourishing in a semi-clandestine private sphere. The book focuses on how Reformed Protestants dealt with this revived Catholicism, arguing that confessional coexistence between Calvinists and Catholics operated within a number of contiguous and overlapping social, political, and cultural spaces. The result was a paradox: a society that was at once Calvinist and pluralist. Christine Kooi maps the daily interactions between people of different faiths and examines how religious boundaries were negotiated during an era of tumultuous religious change.

Christine Kooi is associate professor in the Department of History at Louisiana State University. She is the author of *Liberty and Religion: Church and State in Leiden's Reformation, 1572–1620* (2000), and her articles have appeared in numerous journals including the *Sixteenth Century Journal* and *Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte*.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02324-6 - Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age: Heretics and Idolaters

Christine Kooi

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

*For René Vanhaelen,  
in memory of Ina Vanhaelen-van Vliet*

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02324-6 - Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age: Heretics and Idolaters

Christine Kooi

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

# Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age

*Heretics and Idolaters*

CHRISTINE KOOI

*Louisiana State University*



**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02324-6 - Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age: Heretics and Idolaters

Christine Kooi

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,  
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press  
32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2473, USA  
[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)  
Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781107023246](http://www.cambridge.org/9781107023246)

© Christine Kooi 2012

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception  
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,  
no reproduction of any part may take place without the written  
permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2012

Printed in the United States of America

*A catalog record for this publication is available from the British Library.**Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication data*

Kooi, Christine.

Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's golden age : heretics and  
idolaters / Christine Kooi.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-02324-6 (hardback) – ISBN 978-1-107-61655-4 (paperback)

1. Netherlands – Church history – 17th century. 2. Calvinism – Netherlands – History –  
17th century. 3. Reformed Church – Netherlands – History – 17th century. 4. Catholic  
Church – Netherlands – History – 17th century. I. Title.

BR905.k66 2012

274.92'06-dc23 2012006882

ISBN 978-1-107-02324-6 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs  
for external or third-party Internet Web sites referred to in this publication and does not  
guarantee that any content on such Web sites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02324-6 - Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age: Heretics and Idolaters

Christine Kooi

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Abbreviations</i>	ix
Introduction	i
1. War and Peace	16
2. Priests and Preachers	44
3. Persecution and Toleration	90
4. Converts and Apostates	130
5. Kith and Kin	175
Conclusion	215
<i>Bibliography</i>	225
<i>Index</i>	243

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02324-6 - Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age: Heretics and Idolaters

Christine Kooi

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02324-6 - Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age: Heretics and Idolaters

Christine Kooi

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Acknowledgments

The experience of Catholics in the Dutch Republic has interested me since graduate school, when I wrote a seminar paper on the subject for the late John Michael Montias. Eventually, I set out to investigate the question more thoroughly, focusing particularly on the relationships between Catholics and Calvinists in Holland. Many years later, this book is the fruit of that investigation.

Nobody researches and writes in a vacuum, of course, and so I have many people to thank for helping me along the way. Archivists and librarians in the Netherlands and Belgium provided invaluable aid, especially Mevrouw H. A. van Dolder-de Wit, archivist of the Hervormde Gemeente of Gouda, who graciously allowed me to consult the consistorial minutes of that congregation's seventeenth-century predecessors. The time I spent working with her in the consistory chamber of the storied Sint-Janskerk in Gouda ranks among the high points of my archival experience.

Audiences in such far-flung places as Amsterdam, Leiden, Berlin, Geneva, New York, Miami, Toronto, Vancouver, and Raleigh were among the first to hear the results of my research, and I am grateful for their commentary and feedback; I am equally grateful to my hosts in all those venues. The writing was begun with the generous support of the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study, a fine home for scholars in the leafy suburbs of The Hague that I highly recommend to anyone looking for a peaceful place to think and write. Final completion of the manuscript was facilitated by a fellowship from the ATLAS program of the Louisiana State Board of Regents.

Numerous fellow toilers in the historical vineyard also contributed to the shaping of this book. My particular thanks go to Charles Parker of

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02324-6 - Calvinists and Catholics during Holland's Golden Age: Heretics and Idolaters

Christine Kooi

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

*Acknowledgments*

Saint Louis University and my colleague Victor Stater of LSU for their thorough readings of an early version of the manuscript. Thanks to them, it is a better book, although of course all mistakes that remain are entirely my own. LSU colleagues and friends Maribel Dietz and Margherita Zanasi helped me with some challenging Latin and Italian translations, while Sue Marchand and Paul Paskoff provided important help on the tortuous path to publication. At Cambridge University Press, Emily Spangler has proven to be a generous and supportive editor. My thanks also go to Cambridge's anonymous readers for their criticisms and suggestions. I am grateful to the Board of Syndics of Cambridge University Press for adding this book to their venerable list of scholarly works on early modern Europe.

René and Ina Vanhaelen were my gracious hosts during many months spent researching in the Netherlands. It saddens me that Ina did not live to see the final fruits of that research, this book about relationships, because relationships were something she held very dear in her own life. I think she would have liked to read it.



## Abbreviations

AAU	<i>Archief voor de geschiedenis van het aartsbisdom Utrecht</i>
AHGG	Archief Hervormde Gemeente Gouda
ARG	<i>Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte</i>
BBH	<i>Bijdragen voor de geschiedenis van het bisdom Haarlem</i>
BMGN	<i>Bijdragen en mededelingen betreffende de geschiedenis der Nederlanden</i>
CA	Classicale Acta
GAD	Gemeente Archief Delft
GHA	Groene Hart Archieven
KA	Kerkenraadsacta
KB	Koninklijke Bibliotheek
NA	Nationaal Archief
NHA	Noord-Hollands Archief
NHG	Archief Nederlands-Hervormde Gemeente
OBC	Archief Oud-Bisschoppelijke Clerezij
OKN	Archief Oud-Katholieke Kerk Nederland
OSA	Oud-Synodaal Archief
RAL	Regionaal Archief Leiden
SAA	Stadsarchief Amsterdam
SAD	Stadsarchief Dordrecht
UA	Het Utrechts Archief
ZE	<i>De zeventiende eeuw</i>