COUNSEL AND COMMAND IN EARLY MODERN ENGLISH THOUGHT

While it has often been recognised that counsel formed an essential part of political discourse in early modern England, the precise role that it occupied in the development of political thinking has remained obscure. This comprehensive and rigorous study of early modern English political counsel establishes the importance of the relationship between political counsel and the discourse of sovereignty. Tracing the changes and evolution of writings on political counsel during the 'monarchy of counsel', from the end of the Wars of the Roses to the end of the English Civil War, Joanne Paul examines English thought in its domestic and transnational context, providing an original account of the relationship between counsel and emerging conceptions of sovereignty. Formed at the conjunction of the history of political thought and English political history, this book grounds textual analysis within the context of court politics, intellectual and patronage networks and diplomacy.

JOANNE PAUL is Senior Lecturer in Early Modern History at the University of Sussex where her research currently focuses on Thomas More’s Utopia, as well as the Dudley family during the reign of the Tudors. Winner of the 2014 Sir John Neale Prize for Tudor History, she is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. She is the author of Thomas More (2016), and numerous articles in journals such as Renaissance Quarterly, Renaissance Studies and Hobbes Studies.
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The books in this series will discuss the emergence of intellectual traditions and of related new disciplines. The procedures, aims and vocabularies that were generated will be set in the context of the alternatives available within the contemporary frameworks of ideas and institutions. Through detailed studies of the evolution of such traditions, and their modification by different audiences, it is hoped that a new picture will form of the development of ideas in their concrete contexts. By this means, artificial distinctions between the history of philosophy, of the various sciences, of society and politics, and of literature may be seen to dissolve.

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A list of books in the series can be found at the end of the volume.
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THOUGHT

JOANNE PAUL
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