

## HISTORY OF MARRIAGE RESEARCH GUIDE

This guide is intended to provide an introduction to important resources in the history of marriage. Resources range from general reference tools to where one might find relevant primary and secondary sources, including information about searching Vanderbilt's library catalog [Acorn](#), the [WorldCat](#) catalog, and additional databases more productively. If you need any additional guidance or information regarding these resources, please contact the [Divinity Library](#).

### General Surveys and Collections

The following texts are a *sample* of the surveys and collections available at Vanderbilt regarding the history of marriage.

*Christian Attitudes to Marriage: From Ancient Times to the Third Millennium*  
Coleman, Peter Everard  
Divinity  
**BT706 .C654 2004**

*Christian Marriage: A Historical Study*  
Olsen, Glenn W.  
Divinity  
**BT706 .C47 2001**

*Christianity and the Making of the Modern Family*  
Ruether, Rosemary Radford  
Divinity  
**BT707.7 .R84 2000**

*A History of Marriage Systems*  
Quale, G. Robina  
Central  
**HQ503 .Q35 1988**

*A History of the Wife*  
Yalom, Marilyn  
Central  
**HQ1206 .Y35 2001**

*Jewish Marriage in Antiquity*  
Satlow, Michael L.  
Divinity  
**BM713 .S27 2001**

*Love, Marriage, and Family in the Middle Ages: A Reader*  
Murray, Jacqueline  
Central  
**HQ513 .L68 2001**

*Love, Sex and Marriage in the Middle Ages: A Sourcebook*  
McCarthy, Conor  
Central  
**HQ513 .M35 2004**

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*Marriage in the Early Church*

Hunter, David G

Divinity

**BR195 .M37 M37 1992**

*Marriage in the Western Church: The Christianization of Marriage During the Patristic Medieval Periods*

Reynolds, Philip Lyndon

Divinity

**BV835 .R485 1994**

*Medieval Family Roles: A Book of Essays*

Itnyre, Cathy Jorgensen

Central

**HQ513 .M43 1996**

*My Secret is Mine: Studies on Religion and Eros in the German Middle Ages*

Keller, Hildegard Elisabeth

Central

**BT708.4 .K45 2000**

*Sex, Marriage, and Family in John Calvin's Geneva*

Witte, John

Divinity

**BX9423 .M37 W58 2005**

*Sex, Marriage, and Family in World Religions*

Browning, Don S

Divinity

**BL65 .S4 S48 2006**

*Sexuality, Marriage, and Family: Readings in the Catholic Tradition*

Odozor, Paulinus Ikechukwu

Divinity

**BX1795 .S48 S53 2001**

*The Social Structure of Christian Families: A Historical Perspective*

Grant, Brian W

Divinity

**BT707.7 .G73 2000**

*Spiritual Marriage: Sexual Abstinence in Medieval Wedlock*

Elliott, Dyan

Divinity

**BV835 .E424 1993**

*To Have and to Hold: Marrying and Its Documentation in Western Christendom, 400—1600*

Reynolds, Philip Lyndon

Central

**HQ503 .T6 2007**

*Women and the Common Life: Love, Marriage, and Feminism*

Lasch, Christopher

Central

**HQ1121 .L37 1997**

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*Women, Family, and Utopia: Communal Experiments of the Shakers, the Oneida Community, and the Mormons*

Foster, Lawrence

Divinity

**BT708 .F67 1991**

*Women, Marriage, and Family in Medieval Christendom: Essays in Memory of Michael M. Sheehan, C.S.B*

Rousseau, Constance M. and Joel T. Rosenthal

Central

**CB351 .S83 v.37**

### The Acorn Catalog and WorldCat - Subjects and Call Numbers

For some research, you will want to find out broadly what has been published on a specific area of study. For monographic treatments of an area of interest, Vanderbilt's [Acorn](#) and OCLC's [WorldCat](#) are the best places to start. (Acorn tells you what the Vanderbilt libraries own and WorldCat tells you what libraries around the world own.) Search WorldCat similarly to the way you search Acorn to generate a list of titles under a particular subject heading.

Standardized subject headings and call numbers are assigned to books and other material added to the library collection to describe and organize the intellectual content. Approaching a subject through the analytical logic of the catalog provides an efficient path to relevant material.

Example: Select a standard work from one of the reference tools above and search the title in Acorn.

“History of Marriage” is not a subject heading used by our library or by most of the libraries in the United States. Examples of subject headings used for works in this area are:

Marriage – History – Sources

Marriage (Jewish law)

Marriage – Moral and Ethical aspects – Catholic Church – History

Marriage – Religious aspects – Christianity

Marriage service – Liturgy – Texts

Family – United States – Religious life

Sex role – United States – History

More specific topics will have subject headings to reflect the specificity. A strategy for finding appropriate headings is to use an assigned text or search the topic in the reference tools below and select a highly recommended source from the bibliography on the topic. Search the title in Acorn. The record's subject headings are hyperlinked to other titles with the same subject headings. This type of searching is helpful for finding both primary and secondary sources related to your topic.

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There are two approaches to searching for primary sources in the catalog: (1) Select the advanced search option. Search by several subjects of interest, including “Sources” as one of the subjects searched. (2) Add “Sources” to any subject string (e.g., Marriage – England – History – To 1500 – Sources) when doing a basic search by subject. In addition to searching for “Sources,” you may also want to consider using “Case Studies,” “Sermons,” “Handbooks, manuals, etc.” or “Popular works” depending on your area of interest.

The call number is another lead to related works and can be searched by browsing the shelves in reference or the stacks as well as an online call number search that allows you to browse books that are checked out or stored at the Annex. Call numbers for the History of Marriage can be found in HQ (Family, Marriage, and Women), BL (Religion), BM (Judaism), BP (Islam), BQ (Buddhism), BR (Christianity), BT (Doctrinal Theology), BV (Practical Theology), BX (Christian Denominations), CB (History of Civilization), and KB (Religious Law).

Examples of call numbers are:

HQ1051 (described as general works on the church and marriage)

BV835 (described as the sacrament of marriage)

BX8349 (described as Methodist doctrines)

More specific subjects will have their own call numbers. A cautionary note: books with more than one subject can only be located in one place so may not be placed on the shelves beside other books on the topic.

### Databases for Finding Articles, Book Chapters, and Primary Sources

The following databases are most useful for historical studies in religion.

[ATLA Religion Database](#) This compiles bibliographic information on publications (books, articles, book reviews) related to religious studies. It includes the journal *Theology & Sexuality*.

[JSTOR](#) This is a database with many full-text historical resources online (though some are also accessible through ATLA). It contains the *Journal of Marriage and the Family* (to 2001) and *Marriage and Family Living*.

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[Proquest](#) This database searches a wide array of journals, newspapers and magazines. Please note that Proquest offers several different searching options/databases which cannot all be selected simultaneously (e.g., certain historical newspapers much be searched separately). It contains the *Journal*

*of Marriage and the Family* (from 1988), *Marriage & Family Review*, and *Journal of the History of Sexuality*.

[SpringerLINK](#) This database contains hundreds of journals related to the humanities and social sciences, including the *International Journal of Sexuality and Gender Studies*.

Depending on your time period and focus, the following databases may also be helpful in finding primary and secondary sources related to the history of marriage. You may also want to browse through the listing of [Religion-related Databases](#) on the Divinity library website for additional relevant databases.

[America: History and Life](#) and [Historical Abstracts](#) These databases together contain 100,000+ journal articles. You can search U.S. and Canadian history and culture (*America: History and Life*), the rest of the world exclusive of the U.S. and Canada (*Historical Abstracts*), or both together. It also includes abstracts for some dissertations.

[American Memory](#) This database is maintained by the Library of Congress and includes access to many primary sources, including recordings (sound and visual).

[Contemporary Women's Issues](#) This database allows one to search for recent journal and newspaper articles based on general subjects and geographical region.

[Diotima](#) This site collects online resources for the study of women in antiquity. It focuses on classical (Greek and Roman) antiquity, but also includes items related to ANE and biblical studies.

[Early English Books Online](#) This database contains primary source materials in English from the 15<sup>th</sup> to early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

[Family in Society](#) This is an online text with primary source documents related to the family, including marriage. (After selecting the above link, choose the Web Link on the resulting Acorn record.)

[Feminae](#) This database contains materials related to women, sexuality and gender in the Middle Ages.

[Gender Inn](#) This database contains materials related to feminist theory and feminist literary criticism.

[Gender Issues and Sexuality](#) This online text provides approximately 175 primary sources about gender issues from the 19<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. (After selecting the above link, choose the Web Link on the resulting Acorn record.)

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[Gender Studies Database](#) This database combines several other databases and specifically contains citations and some full-text gender-related articles.

[Historic Documents](#) This database contains primary sources (~2500) since 1972.

[In the First Person](#) This database contains over 4000 international oral history sources (in English).

[Index of Christian Art](#) This database contains medieval art with full text records for nearly 9000 works of art dating from early apostolic times to 1400 A.D.

[IngentaConnect](#) This database contains almost 24 million searchable journal articles. Many are full-text.

[LexisNexis® Academic](#) This database holds a variety of source types (e.g., newspapers and magazines) for contemporary information. It includes the journal *Cohabitation, Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage in the United States*.

[Making of America](#) This site contains primary sources from 19<sup>th</sup> century America.

[MECAS](#) This database contains historical articles related to the countries and peoples of the Middle East, Central Asia and North Africa.

[Mormon Studies CD-ROM](#) This is a large collection of previously-published materials related to Mormon studies. Available only in the library.

[19th Century Masterfile](#) This database contains primary source materials from 19<sup>th</sup> century periodicals, newspapers and government records.

[Project Muse](#) This database contains articles from the arts, humanities and social sciences.

[RAMBI](#) This database contains articles related to Jewish studies.

[Religion and Philosophy Database](#) Allows users to search almost 1,000,000 articles by keyword. Most usefully, it also contains searchable subject guides.

[Sociological Abstracts](#) This database contains abstracts of sociology-related journal articles, dissertations and conference papers.

[WASM](#) This database contains primary documents related to women and social movements in the United States from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to the present.

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### Archives

In addition to [Acorn](#), [WorldCat](#), and the Databases suggested above, the [Archival Research Guide](#) for finding archival resources and listings may be helpful for locating primary sources.

The following local archives may be useful for finding relevant primary sources.

[Disciples of Christ Historical Society](#)

Nashville, TN

[Dixon Pentecostal Research Center](#)

(has online search capabilities)

Cleveland, TN

[Fisk University Special Collections](#)

Nashville, TN

[Lawrence County Archives](#)

Lawrenceburg, TN

[Lipscomb University Special Collections](#)

Nashville, TN

[MTSU Albert Gore Research Center](#)

Murfreesboro, TN

[Nashville Public Library Special Collections](#)

Nashville, TN

[Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives](#)

Nashville, TN

[University of the South Archives and Special Collections](#)

Sewanee, TN

[Vanderbilt University Special Collections](#)

Nashville, TN

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### General Bibliographic Tools

All of the print tools below include bibliographies for further study.

*An Annotated Bibliography of U.S. Scholarship on the History of the Family*

Benson-von der Ohe, Elizabeth  
Central

**Z7164 .M2 B46 1986**

*Domestic Society in Medieval Europe: A Select Bibliography*

Sheehan, Michael M  
Central

**Z7164 .M2 S46 1990**

*International Bibliography of Research in Marriage and the Family*

Aldous, Joan  
and

*Inventory of Marriage and Family Literature*

University of Minnesota. Dept. of Family Social Science

Central (3<sup>rd</sup> floor – Oversize) Vol. 1 and 2

Peabody (Reference) Vol. 1-10, 12-18

**Z7164 .M2 I57**

*Marriage and Code of Canon Law: International Documentation 1975-1983 = Mariage et Code de Droit Canonique: Documentation Internationale 1975-1983*

Zimmermann, Marie  
Divinity (Annex)

**KBR3109.2 .M377 1983**

*Marriage and Divorce: International Bibliography*

Schlick, Jean

Divinity (Annex) Vol. 1975-1977, 1978-1980, 1980-1983

**HQ734 .M277**

*Medieval Sexuality: A Research Guide*

Salisbury, Joyce  
Central

**Z7164 .S42 S24 1990**

*Sociology of Marriage and Family Behaviour 1957-1968; A Trend Report and Bibliography*

Mogey, John M  
Peabody

**Z7164.M2 M64**

### Research Assistance

For additional research assistance, contact [Chris Benda](#) (Divinity Library Theological Librarian).

### Citations and Plagiarism

Vanderbilt University requires all students to follow the guidelines of the [Honor Code](#). Please use the following guides for [Avoiding Plagiarism](#) and [Citing Your Sources](#). You can also refer to the library's site for a list of [Style Guides](#), including Turabian/Chicago, MLA, and APA. Check with your professor for preferred citation methods.