

ABSTRACT

The thesis addresses the topic of women in the process of the recatholization of Bohemia and focuses mainly on the first half of the 17th century. The author investigated if and how much the experience of women differed from that of men. More than the legislation and newly created norms the application of these directions enlightens the topic of women. Rich material connected to the activity of the recatholization commission and other authorities devoted to the conversion of Czech population was used. Sources of statistical character were used for evaluation of the results of the process. Because of their extent, regional restriction had to be made – we focused on Boleslavsko. In the focus of the thesis were mainly townswomen and lower nobility. One of the most important findings is the fact that the authorities saw women as important as men in the process. Although specific, seemingly more moderate, means for coercion were used in women's case. This flexibility is typical for the Catholic church's approach to women and we are in concord with other researchers, mostly from abroad. The findings also contribute to our knowledge of the process of the recatholization of the Czech lands.

KEY WORDS

Recatholization, Catholic reformation, women's history, gender history, early modern ages, counter-reformation.