

English abstract

Legal status of women in Roman law

This rigorous thesis deals comprehensively with problematics of the position of a woman as a legal subject in the Roman law. The thesis is divided in three main chapters whereas the first one deals with the historical events and legal regulations that influenced the position of a woman in individual periods of the Roman state system, in a Roman family as well as in the entire society. The second chapter is devoted to the competence of a woman in the Roman law, mainly to the legal personality, capacity, legal as well as procedural competence. In this connection, the subchapter deals with the position of a woman as a person *alieni iuris* and *sui iuris* and the institute of guardianship of adult women in the *sui iuris* position. The third chapter is focused on the legal position of a woman in a Roman family. It analyzes the roles that a woman could play in a family gradually. It means the role of a daughter, wife, mother, and widow whereas the largest emphasis is placed on the position of a woman in the Roman marriage and related institutions. The extramarital forms of coexistence such as *concubinatus* and *contubernium* and the problematics of property law between spouses are not left out. The semifinal chapter concentrates on the legal position of a woman in religion, mainly on the rights and obligations of priestesses of the goddess Vesta, so-called Vestal Virgins, and on *crimen incestum*. The conclusion of this thesis is devoted to the legal position of a woman in the criminal law and concentrates on the immoral criminal acts according to *lex Iulia de adulteriis*.