



## Separated and Divorced Wives in the Early Modern World

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### Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue seeks to focus on the separated or divorced wife and her experience of marital separation. What were the effects of marital separation (and divorce) on women and their families, including their children? What was a separated woman's cultural and legal status? What were the economic effects of separation on women? Where did separated wives fit in a family lineage and in terms of inheritance? Answering such questions will be enriched by a comparative focus. How did Christian, Jewish, and Muslim women experience separation and divorce? Did separated women's lives share similarities across region, culture, and religion, or were there distinct differences, with some societies treating separated wives and divorced women as social pariahs while others were more welcoming or tolerant of them? This Special Issue will hopefully begin to bring attention to a neglected group of early modern women and suggest ways that they can be studied comparatively.





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