



University
of Victoria



Dangerous Liaisons: Sex Crimes and the Courts in France, 1500-1700

Justine Semmens

Thursday, December 1

5:00-6:00 p.m. PT

David Turpin Building A110

Join via Zoom at uvic.ca/csrs/events

Christian marriage was the basic social unit in early modern France. Men and women risked criminal prosecution and even violent physical punishment when their sexual behaviour violated the rules of marriage -- a serious threat to the moral order. Taking a close look at sex crime prosecution at the kingdom's highest court, this talk reveals men and women's sexual secrets, how the kingdom's most powerful judges responded to them, and what these stories can tell us about the society and culture of early modern France.

Justine Semmens is a sessional lecturer in History at UVic. She specializes in the social, religious, and legal history of women, gender, and the family in early modern France.

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