



## A History of Their Own: Women in Europe from Prehistory to the Present, Vol. 2

By Bonnie S. Anderson, Judith P. Zinsser

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This classic two-volume history is an exciting and revolutionary look at women's history from prehistoric times to the present. Its unique organization focuses on the developments, achievements, and changes in women's roles in society. Rather than examining women's history as an inevitable progression of events along a strict timeline, this text is organized within a loose chronology, with chapters focusing on women's place and function in society. This revised edition provides a new introduction, an updated epilogue on women's lives in Europe since 1988, and a completely revised bibliography that includes recent scholarship. *A History of Their Own* restores women to the historical record, brings their history into focus, and provides models of female action and heroism. Lively and engaging, this new edition takes readers on a fascinating journey through women's history and the changing roles they have played. In addition it is an ideal text for general courses in women's studies and women's history and more specialized courses focusing on women in European history.

Volume Two covers the fifteenth century to the present. Topics include the roles of female monarchs and women of the court; the application of the new tools of the Scientific Revolution to prove traditional views of women; the salons and parlors of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and wealthy women's contributions to the arts and social services; the impact of city-living and the Industrial Revolution on women's roles and family life; and the emergence, evolution, and impact of the modern feminist movement.

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### **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

"Combining superb scholarship and sheer readability," PW declared, "this is a revelatory, much-needed survey of women in European history" that considers women's roles, after 1600, as soldiers, troubadours, courtiers, singers, composers, writers, painters, revolutionaries and reformers. Photos.

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From Library Journal

Organized around the thesis that "gender has been the most important factor in shaping the lives of European women," this sweeping history describes women's experience in terms of social groups and work, with chronology secondary. The approach, which revealed interesting themes in volume 1 ( LJ 5/1/88), is inadequate for the rapid changes of the 19th and 20th centuries. More minor flaws mar this volume. The section on prostitution flows directly into that dealing with performing arts, perpetuating an unfortunate old association. Women's struggles to organize trade unions are greatly oversimplified. Only partially successful.

Mary Drake McFeely, Univ. of Georgia Lib., Athens

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About the Author

Bonnie S. Anderson is at C.U.N.Y. Brooklyn College. Judith P. Zinsser is at Miami University.

### **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**David Kane:**

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**Margaret Phillips:**

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