

**Pedagogy and Parenting
in English Drama, 1560-1610**

Flogging Schoolmasters and Cockering Mothers

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Abstract

In this thesis I examine the representation of parents and schoolmasters and the conflicts between them in vernacular drama in Reformation England. This was a period of growth in public schooling and a time when numerous treatises on education and childrearing were in circulation in England. Prevailing pedagogical theory privileged the schoolmaster's authority over that of the parents, and set paternal authority over that of the mother. It sought to limit maternal power to the domestic sphere and the infant years, yet the drama examined here suggests that mothers, not fathers, were usually the parent in control of their children's education. The conflicts inherent in these oppositions are played out in drama dealing with schooling and childrearing; each of the works examined here participates in and contributes to public debate over school education and parenting practices in early modern England.

The thesis conducts a close textual and contextual analysis of the representation of schoolmasters and parents and of parent-school relations in seven English plays. A variety of dramatic genres is represented: public drama (*Love's Labour's Lost*, *Patient Grissill*, *The Winter's Tale*), school drama (*Nice Wanton*, *July and Julian*, *The Disobedient Child*), and private royal entertainment (*The Lady of May*). The plays are explicated in terms of the Tudor school culture and the negotiation of authority between fathers, mothers and schoolmasters. The thesis draws extensively on sixteenth-century school dialogues and *vulgaria* and on education treatises, which were available in English in Tudor England, in particular the writings of Erasmus, Vives, Ascham, Mulcaster, Elyot, Brinsley and Becon. School records provide information on school conditions and curricula, the duties and qualities of schoolmasters and the role of schools in civic and public performances. The thesis addresses issues of gender, childrearing, public education and parental and pedagogical authority in the second half of the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries.

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Note on texts

Titles of Latin texts follow the standard modern scholarly form as used in the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, 3rd. edn. 1996. Titles of texts in English follow the form given in the edition cited. For books published before 1800, publishers are not given, and place of publication is London unless otherwise stated.

For Shakespeare, unless otherwise stated, the text used is: *The Riverside Shakespeare*, ed. G. B. Evans, 2nd edn., Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1997.

Primary pedagogical works

The following works are cited parenthetically within the text:

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<i>The Scholemaster</i> (1570) Ed. R. C. Alston. <i>English Linguistics 1500-1800</i> No. 20. Menston: Scolar, 1967.	<i>Scholemaster</i>
Thomas Becon	
<i>A New Catechism set forth Dialogue-wise in Familiar Talk between the Father and the Son</i> (1547-53) Ed. John Ayre. <i>The Catechism of Thomas Becon with Other Pieces Written by him in the Reign of King Edward the Sixth</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1844. 1-410.	<i>Catechism</i>
John Brinsley	
<i>Ludus Literarius or The Grammar Schoole</i> (1612) Ed. E. T. Campagnac. Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 1917.	<i>Ludus literarius</i>
Maturin Corderius	
<i>Pueriles Confabulatiunculae</i> (1617) Trans. John Brinsley (1614). Ed. R. C. Alston. <i>English Linguistics 1500-1800</i> No. 269. Menston: Scolar, 1971.	<i>Pueriles</i>
Sir Thomas Elyot	
<i>The Book named The Governor</i> (1531) Ed. S. E. Lehmberg. London: Dent, 1962.	<i>Governor</i>
Desiderius Erasmus	
<i>Colloquia familiaria</i> (1519) (The Colloquies) Trans. Craig R. Thompson. <i>The Colloquies of Erasmus</i> . Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1965.	<i>Colloquia</i>
<i>De pueris statim ac liberaliter instituendis declamatio</i> (1529) (A Declamation on the Subject of Early Liberal Education for Children) Trans. Beert C. Verstraete. Ed. J. K. Sowards. Vol 26. <i>Collected Works of Erasmus: Literary and Educational Writings 4</i> . Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1985. 295-346.	<i>De pueris</i>
<i>De ratione studii ac legendi interpretandique auctores</i> (1512) (On the Method of Study) Trans. Brian McGregor. Ed. Craig R. Thompson. Vol 24. <i>Collected Works of Erasmus: Literary and Educational Writings 2</i> . Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1978.	<i>De ratione</i>
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The First Part of the Elementarie which entreateth cheffelie of the
right writing of our English tung (1582) *Elementarie*
 Ed. Foster Watson. *Richard Mulcaster and his Elementarie*. London: 1893.
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 Trans. Barnabe Googe (1560). Introd. Rosemond Tuve.
 New York: Scholars' Facsimiles, 1947.
- John Stanbridge, Robert Whittinton
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Robert Whittinton. Early English Text Society, os 187. London: Kegan Paul, 1932.
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 (The Instruction of a Christian Woman)
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Education of Women. London: Edward Arnold, 1912. 29-136.
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 "The Office and Duty of an Husband." Trans. Thomas Paynell (1555?)
 Ed. Joan Larsen Klein. *Daughters, Wives, and Widows: Writings by*
Men about Women and Marriage in England 1500-1640.
 Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1992. 122-36.
De ratione studii puerilis (1523) *De ratione studii*
 (On the Plan of Studies for a Boy)
 Trans. and ed. Foster Watson. *Vives and the Renaissance Education of Women*.
 London: Edward Arnold, 1912. 241-250.
De tradendis disciplinis (1531) *De tradendis*
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The Dialogues of Juan Luis Vives. London: Frank Cass, 1970.

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<p><i>Almondbury and its Ancient School being the History of King James's Grammar School, Almondbury</i> Taylor Dyson. Huddersfield: Advertiser, 1926.</p>	Almondbury
<p><i>The Free Grammar School of Bristol, and the Thorns, its Founders</i> J. F. Nichols. Guernsey: Toucan, 1984.</p>	Bristol
<p><i>Calendar of the Manuscripts belonging to the King's School Bruton 1297-1826</i> Ed. T. D. Tremlett. Dorchester: Friary, 1939.</p>	Bruton
<p><i>An Early History of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School</i> Martin Evans. Swansea: n.p., 1987.</p>	Carmarthen
<p><i>Imps of Promise: A History of the King's School Canterbury</i> Thomas Hinde. London: James and James, 1990.</p>	Canterbury
<p><i>Tudor Foundation. A Sketch of the History of Richard Pate's Foundation in Cheltenham</i> Arthur Bell. Buckinghamshire: Pate Foundation, 1974.</p>	Cheltenham
<p><i>Chigwell School</i> D. W. Sylvester. <i>Educational Documents 800-1816</i>. London: Methuen, 1970.</p>	Chigwell
<p><i>The King's School Ely: A collection of Documents relating to the History of the School and its Scholars</i> Eds. Dorothy M. Owen and Dorothea Thurley. Cambridge: Cambridge Antiquarian Records Society, 1982.</p>	Ely
<p><i>The King's School, Gloucester</i> David Robertson. Chichester: Phillimore, 1974.</p>	Gloucester
<p><i>A History of the King's School, Grantham ... 660 years of a Grammar School</i> S. J. Branson. Gloucester: Alan Sutton, 1988.</p>	Grantham
<p><i>The Royal Grammar School, Guildford</i> D. M. Sturley. Guildford: n.p., 1980.</p>	Guildford
<p><i>Kirkwall Grammar School: From Sang School to Comprehensive</i> William P. L. Thomson. Kirkwall: Orkney Islands Council, 1976.</p>	Kirkwall
<p><i>Lanark Grammar School (1183-1983)</i> A. D. Robertson and Thomas Harvey. N.p.: Strathclyde Regional Council, 1983.</p>	Lanark
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A map of schools cited in the text