

writing, gender and state in early modern England : identity formation and the female subject / Megan Matchinske

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Abstrak

The period from the reformation to the English civil war saw an evolving understanding of social identity in England . This book uses four illuminating case studies to chart a shift from mid-sixteenth-century notions of an individually generated, spiritually motivated self, to civil war perceptions of the self as a site of civil control. Each centers on the work of an early modern woman writer in the act of self-definition and authorization, illustrating the evolving relationships between public and private selves and the increasing role of gender in determining different identities for men and women.