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are good ones and should be taken seriously by anyone who approaches this sticky subject.

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Philipp Gutmann, *Zur Reifizierung des Sexuellen im 19. Jahrhundert. Der Beginn einer Scientia sexualis, dargestellt anhand dreier Texte von Hermann Joseph Löwenstein, Joseph Häussler und Heinrich Kaan*, Marburger Schriften zur Medizingeschichte, Band 38, Frankfurt am Main, Peter Lang, 1998, pp. 231, £25.00, DM 69.00, \$39.95 (3-631-33686-1).

This doctoral thesis was written by a German doctor and psychologist under the supervision of the medical historian Sigusch. It falls into two parts: in the first several introductory chapters put the work of three nineteenth-century authors on sexuality (Hermann Joseph Löwenstein, 1823, Joseph Häussler, 1826, and Heinrich Kaan, 1844) into their historical context. It also gives a summary of the three works discussed. The second consists of the translations from Latin into German of Löwenstein's and Kaan's works (Häussler's book was published in German). These are the first full translations of these works from the Latin and they take up a total of 138 pages of the thesis.

With the publication of this second part alone, Philipp Gutmann does indeed do a great favour to every historian interested in the history of sexuality. Not only were Löwenstein's dissertation on sexual deviations and Kaan's often quoted book *Psychopathia sexualis* linguistically inaccessible to many, they are also difficult to find in libraries. Making these seminal sources accessible is of great help.

The first part of the thesis adds some useful remarks, although it tends to stay on a very general level. For example, in the

summary of the theoretical history of medicine of the nineteenth century in 8 pages it uses exclusively the standard histories of medicine, such as Ackerknecht's *Short history of psychiatry*. This section seems therefore to address a more general audience who would be unlikely to read the thesis. The chapter on the summaries of the three works described is useful for a brief overview of Löwenstein's, Häussler's and Kaan's opinions, although it inevitably contains Gutmann's categories and judgements. What I found laudable and impressive is that the author discovered some new facts on the life of Heinrich Kaan (pp. 26–8) using local Austrian archives as well as obscure regional journals (*Ischler Wochenblatt*).

The thesis is written in a clear and agreeable style. It is accurate and well documented. The argument is more predictable than innovative, but it does not claim to be more than an accurate description of the three works it quotes. My main criticism is that the title of the thesis seems badly chosen. It is neither readily understandable, nor does it get fully elaborated, for example, it makes allusion to Michel Foucault's terminology when he is mentioned only in a short paragraph.

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Eberhard Wolff, *Einschneidende Massnahmen, Pockenschutzimpfung und traditionale Gesellschaft im Württemberg des frühen 19. Jahrhunderts*, Medizin, Gesellschaft und Geschichte, Beiheft 10, Stuttgart, Franz Steiner, 1998, pp. 524, DM/SFr 148.00 (3-515-06826-0).

The fight against smallpox is a successful story in medical history. The terrible infectious disease was a great threat and a major killer during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It was, however, also

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the first disease from which it became possible to gain protection through immunization. With its roots in folk-medicine, a traditional measure—inoculation—had been used in Europe since the early eighteenth century. At the end of this period a safer method became widespread, where matter from cows instead of humans was used. *Vacca* means cow in Latin and the new technique was soon known all over the world by the name of vaccination.

In this book Eberhard Wolff deals with the implementation of vaccination in Württemberg during the two first decades of the nineteenth century. The work is a comprehensive study of the mental and social attitudes which explain the reception of vaccination and the strategies behind the campaign. Wolff has used an impressive number of written and printed sources to present an analysis where the key words are tradition and modernization. His principal question is why a substantial number of parents refused to have their children vaccinated in early-nineteenth-century Württemberg.

The example of vaccination offers an interesting exposition of the complex interplay between medical and governmental authorities. Surgeons and physicians in Württemberg were given the monopoly to carry out vaccinations, and were important and influential in promoting the method. The government's policy was initially to prevent smallpox epidemics by indirect measures such as restrictions on travel and isolation of infected persons. There was an early debate on the question of compulsory vaccination. Physicians were generally supportive of such a legislative measure, while politicians often claimed that it violated the rights which free citizens were entitled to. Authorities tried to enforce vaccination by refusing to allow children without immunization entrance to schools. The result was, however, not satisfactory and in 1818 Württemberg was one of the

first states in Europe to introduce compulsory vaccination.

Thus Wolff is mainly concerned with the pre-compulsory era. Moreover, his specific interest is the attitudes of adults, preferably those who resisted vaccination for their children. Wolff criticizes previous research for not having a sufficiently "patient-oriented" perspective. He disagrees with efforts to explain modernization in this context as a product of alienation from nature, religious change, irrationality or scientific progress. Wolff's ambition is to go beyond the reasons most often given to explain the reluctance to accept vaccination. The emphasis of qualitative and often secondary sources is warranted by the ambition to find the "inner logic" of vaccination. The theoretical framework concentrates on creating an improved concept for the meaning of traditionalism. This is also the strength of the study. Wolff convincingly reveals a process whereby the older ideas do not necessarily represent antitheses to the general concept of modernity.

A great number of different motives for the resistance to vaccination are analysed. By observing underlying structures (*teichoskopischen Perspektive*) Wolff finds other forms of rationality, logic and apprehension than those generally presented as official or medical standpoints. He offers interesting insights into how vaccination was understood and received by "common people". Sometimes, however, the reader is left uncertain of the strength of his conclusions. The study is perhaps too consistent in maintaining the qualitative and theoretical emphasis. There is not a single graph or table to show the extent of vaccination or smallpox mortality, which makes it difficult to determine the impact of different factors in a long-term perspective.

Einschneidende Massnahmen is an important work for explaining the implementation of vaccination in early-nineteenth-century Württemberg. The study has, however, wider advantages. It extends

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knowledge about medical organization in Germany and the mental attitudes of the population. Wolff's book also offers the reader a new understanding of the process behind the meeting of what is generally understood as a pre-modern and a modern society. The situation which appears is

complex, perhaps more complex than previous research has admitted, and vaccination works as a perfect indicator when analysing the course of events.

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