

## Řecko

Many things which we consider proper are thought shocking in Greece. What Roman, for instance, has any scruples about taking his wife to a dinner party? What Roman matron does not appear in the reception rooms of her own house and take part in its social life? But it is quite different in Greece, for there a wife may not be present at dinner, unless it is a family party, and spends her time in a remote part of the house called the *Gynaecium* which is never entered by a man unless he is a close relative.  
(Cornelius Nepos)

It is better for a woman to stay inside the house instead of showing herself at the door. For a man, on the other hand, it is a disgrace to be concerned with household matters instead of outside ones.

(Xenophon)

Mistresses we keep for pleasure, concubines for daily attendance upon our person, wives to bear us legitimate children and be our faithful housekeepers.

(Demosthenes)

## Řím

...Woman is a violent and uncontrolled animal, and it is useless to let go the reins and then expect her not to kick over the traces. You must keep her on a tight rein...

Women want total freedom or rather, to call things by their names, total license. If you allow them to achieve complete equality with men, do you think they will be easier to live with? Not at all. Once they have achieved equality, they will be your masters....

(Marcus Portius Cato)

The bad that contains a wife is always hot with quarrels

And mutual bickering: sleep's the last thing you get there.  
This is her battleground, her station for husband-baiting:  
In bed she's worse than a tiger robbed of its young,  
Bitching away to stifle her own bad conscience,  
About his boy-friends, or weeping over some way-out  
Fictitious mistress. She keeps a copious flow  
Of tears at the ready, awaiting her command,  
For any situation: and you, poor worm, are agog,  
Thinking it means she loves you, and kiss her tears away...  
(Juvenal)

Marriage is the union of a man and woman forming an association during their entire  
lives, and involving the common enjoyment of divine and human privileges.  
(Justinian's Code)