



Gender and Pronoun Usage in the 17th Century

By Lea-Marie Pasemann

GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 36 pages. Dimensions: 8.3in. x 5.8in. x 0.1in. Seminar paper from the year 2009 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Linguistics, grade: 1, 0, University of Cologne (Englisches Seminar), course: Introduction to Sociolinguistics, language: English, abstract: Language changes, all the time. This is true because English spoken a millennium ago significantly differs from English spoken today. But how did it change and who were the in-novators who promoted language change in the course of time It is the aim of the following research paper to show how and why the pronominal system changed from thou to you as the standard second person singular pronoun in the course of the Early Modern English period (1500-1700). More precisely, private correspondence from the 17th century will be examined to see why thou or you respectively were chosen and if it was one gender rather than the other who mainly contributed to the standard that we have today. The first chapter is going to shed light on Renaissance England and its demographical facts with particular emphasis on the role of women. General information will be included as well as some facts about family life, and...



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