Contents

| Preface Acknowledgments | | | xi |
|----------------------------|---|--|-----|
| | | | xix |
| 1 | The Roman Catholic background | | 1 |
| 1 | 1.1 | Introduction | 1 |
| | 1.2 | Impediments to marriage | 5 |
| | 1.3 | Annulments: Were they used as divorces? | 9 |
| | 1.4 | Judicial separation | 13 |
| | 1.5 | Divorce in Catholic doctrine | 15 |
| | 1.6 | Marriage and divorce in Catholic populations | 30 |
| | 1.7 | The Council of Trent and its Catholic critics | 34 |
| 2 | The Reformers and divorce: Theory and practice | | 40 |
| | 2.1 | Introduction | 40 |
| | 2.2 | Marriage in Protestant theology | 41 |
| | 2.3 | Divorce in Lutheran thought and practice | 45 |
| | 2.4 | Divorce in Calvinist thought and practice | 52 |
| | 2.5 | Divorce among other Continental Reformers | 62 |
| | 2.6 | The "divorces" of Henry VIII | 71 |
| | 2.7 | The Church of England and divorce | 77 |
| | 2.8 | Conclusion: Divorce and Protestantism | 84 |
| 3 | Seventeenth-century England: Divorce frustrated | | 95 |
| | 3.1 | Introduction | 95 |
| | 3.2 | Marriage breakdown in social thought | 97 |
| | 3.3 | Attitudes toward divorce up to 1640 | 105 |
| | 3.4 | Marriage and divorce in political debate | 116 |
| | 3.5 | Milton's divorce doctrines | 119 |
| | 3.6 | Popular and official attitudes to divorce after 1640 | 126 |
| 4 | | | |
| | eight | 134 | |
| | 4.1 | Divorce in the New England colonies | 134 |
| | 4.2 | Divorce in the middle and southern colonies | 141 |
| | 4.3 | Marriage and divorce in early American law | 144 |
| | 4.4 | The American challenge to English divorce policy | 149 |
| | 4.5 | Independence and the spread of divorce | 154 |

Contents

| 5 | Eighte | enth-century France: Enlightenment and legislation | 159 |
|----|---|--|-----|
| | 5.1 | Marriage and divorce in the Old Regime | 159 |
| | 5.2 | Critics of Old Regime marriage law | 163 |
| | 5.3 | Divorce and the French Revolution | 175 |
| | 5.4 | Napoleonic divorce law | 185 |
| | 5.5 | Abolition of divorce | 189 |
| 6 | The se | cularization of divorce, 1600–1800 | 191 |
| | 6.1 | Introduction | 191 |
| | 6.2 | Secularization of institutions | 194 |
| | 6.3 | Secularization of divorce policies | 202 |
| | 6.4 | Secularization of ideologies and doctrines | 210 |
| 7 | The use of the early divorce laws: England, America, and France | | |
| | 7.1 | Introduction | 227 |
| | 7.2 | England: Divorces by Act of Parliament, 1670–1857 | 227 |
| | 7.3 | Divorces in the American colonies, seventeenth and | |
| | | eighteenth centuries | 241 |
| | 7.4 | France: Divorce under revolution and empire, 1792–1816 | 256 |
| | 7.5 | Conclusion | 276 |
| 8 | The alternatives to divorce | | |
| | 8.1 | Introduction | 279 |
| | 8.2 | Informal separation | 283 |
| | 8.3 | Desertion | 285 |
| | 8.4 | Wife sale | 289 |
| | 8.5 | Customary divorce | 294 |
| | 8.6 | Bigamy | 296 |
| | 8.7 | Lettres de cachet | 302 |
| | 8.8 | Spouse murder | 306 |
| | 8.9 | Suicide | 310 |
| | 8.10 | Prayer | 311 |
| | 8.11 | Conclusion | 312 |
| 9 | The meaning of marriage breakdown in the past | | |
| | 9.1 | Introduction | 314 |
| | 9.2 | Expectations of marriage | 321 |
| | 9.3 | Marital violence and "moderate correction" | 323 |
| | 9.4 | Adultery and the double standard | 344 |
| | 9.5 | Emotional expectations and romantic love | 354 |
| 10 |) The social context of marriage breakdown | | |
| | 10.1 | Introduction | 361 |
| | 10.2 | The family economy | 364 |
| | 10.3 | Other pressures against separation | 382 |
| | 10.4 | How common was marriage breakdown? | 392 |

Contents

| 11 | Nineteenth-century divorce laws: Liberalization and reaction, | | | | |
|------|---|--|-----|--|--|
| | 1815- | | 403 | | |
| | 11.1 | Introduction | 403 | | |
| | 11.2 | Revolutionary, Napoleonic, and Restoration Europe | 405 | | |
| | 11.3 | The first English divorce law | 412 | | |
| | 11.4 | Restoring divorce to France | 422 | | |
| | 11.5 | Prussian and German divorce law | 428 | | |
| | 11.6 | Divorce elsewhere in Europe | 432 | | |
| | 11.7 | Divorce law in the British Empire | 433 | | |
| | 11.8 | The United States | 439 | | |
| | 11.9 | The rise of divorce and the conservative reaction | 461 | | |
| | 11.10 | Migratory divorce and international law | 473 | | |
| 12 | Divorce as a social issue, 1850–1914 | | | | |
| | 12.1 | Introduction | 479 | | |
| | 12.2 | The family in progressive social and political thought | 481 | | |
| | 12.3 | Conservative and reactionary approaches to the family | 489 | | |
| | 12.4 | The meaning of divorce policies | 493 | | |
| | 12.5 | Divorce, social purity, and women's rights | 495 | | |
| | 12.6 | Divorce and the eugenics movement | 507 | | |
| | 12.7 | Conclusion | 513 | | |
| 13 | The twentieth century: The rise of mass divorce | | 516 | | |
| | 13.1 | Introduction | 516 | | |
| | 13.2 | World War I and the 1920s | 516 | | |
| | 13.3 | Reform in Britain, the empire, and the United States | 525 | | |
| | 13.4 | Political ideology and divorce between the wars | 533 | | |
| | 13.5 | World War II and the 1950s | 555 | | |
| | 13.6 | The 1960s to 1980s: No-fault divorce | 561 | | |
| | 13.7 | Politics and divorce reform in Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Ireland | 572 | | |
| 14 | Explaining the rise of divorce, 1870s-1980s | | | | |
| | 14.1 | Introduction | 582 | | |
| | 14.2 | Modern divorce research | 584 | | |
| | 14.3 | Phase one: Up to World War I | 590 | | |
| | 14.4 | Phase two: 1918 to the 1960s | 612 | | |
| | 14.5 | Phase three: Divorce since 1960 | 619 | | |
| | 14.6 | Conclusion | 630 | | |
| Con | clusion | | 635 | | |
| | Select bibliography | | | | |
| Inde | 615 | | | | |
| | | | 665 | | |