

**rape** In late Roman law, rape was among the most heinous offences, punished by death without amnesty. A harsh statute of Constantine on *raptus* (CTh. 9.24.1) aimed at abduction marriage rather than rape, penalizing also the girl regardless of her consent. Rape and violent abduction were common in the post-Roman west, although they were serious crimes in all Germanic codes. In Persian law, rape was punished by a fine.

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Beaucamp *Femme* 1.107–21.

J. Evans Grubbs, 'Abduction Marriage in Antiquity: A Law of Constantine (CTh ix.24.1) and its Social Context', *JRS* 79 (1989), 59–83.

96 words

Abbreviations used not in current list:

Beaucamp *Femme* = J. Beaucamp, *Le Statut de la femme à Byzance (4e–7e siècle)*, 2 vols. (1990–2).

Possible cross references:

Constantine