

CLASSICAL TRIPOS Part II
Group C History

Monday 31 May 2004 1.30 to 4.30

Paper C2

POWER AND DEPENDENCE: MODES OF CONTROL
IN THE ROMAN HOUSEHOLD AND SOCIETY c.50 B.C.—A.D. 300

Answer three questions.

It is important to write good English.

Irrelevance will be penalised.

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you
may do so by the Invigilator**

1 Either (a) 'The term "power" is a very blunt instrument in historical analysis.' What are the drawbacks in using it to analyse Roman social and political institutions?

Or (b) How relevant to the historian are theoretical debates about the nature of power?

2 Either (a) 'The patron was always vulnerable to the power of the client.' Discuss.

Or (b) What evidence is there for the operation of patronage in late Republican and imperial politics?

3 Why did Roman slaves not revolt?

4 What impact did Christianity have on Roman slavery?

5 'The dominance of men over women lies at the heart of all ancient power relations.' Do you agree?

6 Is it possible ever to recapture the 'woman's voice' in ancient Rome?

7 'It is anachronistic to characterize the Romans as "cruel" to their children.' Discuss.

8 Was there a Roman concept of 'childhood'?

9 Either (a) 'Pagan Romans despised the poor.' Did they?

Or (b) Why did Christians give to the poor?

10 'Historians have tended to exaggerate the liberality and enthusiasm with which the Romans granted citizenship to subject peoples.' Do you agree?

11 Is 'tolerance' a helpful term in making sense of pagan Roman attitudes to other religious traditions?

12 'The imperial cult was all about power.' Was it?