

Households, Manhood, and National Expansion on the Eighteenth Century Kentucky Frontier

A Review

In his book *Households, Manhood, and National Expansion on the Eighteenth Century Kentucky Frontier*, historian Thomas D. Clark examines the role of households in the settlement and development of Kentucky. Clark argues that households were the basic unit of social and economic organization on the frontier, and that they played a key role in the formation of American manhood and the expansion of the United States.



Home Rule: Households, Manhood, and National Expansion on the Eighteenth-Century Kentucky Frontier (The Lamar Series in Western History)

by Honor Sachs

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1564 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 216 pages



Clark's book is based on a wealth of primary source material, including census records, tax lists, probate inventories, and personal papers. He

uses this material to reconstruct the lives of ordinary people on the Kentucky frontier, and to show how households shaped their experiences.

Clark finds that households were typically large and extended, with an average of six to eight members. They were also highly patriarchal, with men holding the majority of power and authority. Women were responsible for most of the domestic work, while men were responsible for providing food and protection. Children were expected to work hard and contribute to the household economy.

Clark argues that households were more than just economic units. They were also the centers of social and cultural life on the frontier. Families gathered together for meals, celebrations, and religious services. They also provided a sense of security and belonging in a often dangerous and unforgiving environment.

Clark's book is a valuable contribution to the historiography of the Kentucky frontier. It provides a rich and detailed account of the lives of ordinary people who played a key role in the settlement and development of the United States. Clark's work is also a reminder of the importance of households in American history. Households have always been the basic unit of social and economic organization, and they have played a key role in shaping the American experience.

Further Reading

- Households, Manhood, and National Expansion on the Eighteenth Century Kentucky Frontier by Thomas D. Clark
- Review of Households, Manhood, and National Expansion on the Eighteenth Century Kentucky Frontier by Thomas D. Clark

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