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Antiheroines of Early Modern Polish History in the Textbooks of the Second Polish Republic

*Antybohaterki nowożytnych dziejów Polski w podręcznikach
 Drugiej Rzeczypospolitej*

ABSTRACT

The author of the article presents changes that took place in the textbook depictions of women – counted among the antiheroines of Polish History – from 1918 to 1939. The starting point are 19th-century compilations, in which the authors' attention was focused on prominent queens of the Early Modern era: Bona Sforza, Maria Ludwika Gonzaga, and Maria Kazimiera de La Grange d'Arquien. The attitudes of the authors of historical and educational compilations created after Poland regained its independence towards these women was the result of various factors, but also a proof of acceptance of women's new roles in the newly united – among others, through historical education – society. This applied particularly to those women's roles that evoked social resistance, as they were linked to involvement in politics, which was viewed as a space for men's activity.

PUBLICATION INFO			
			e-ISSN: 2449-8467 ISSN: 2082-6060
			
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SOURCE OF FUNDING: Statutory Research of the Institute of History of the University of Rzeszów			
SUBMITTED: 2018.10.07	ACCEPTED: 2020.01.15	PUBLISHED ONLINE: 2020.12.??	
WEBSITE OF THE JOURNAL: https://journals.umcs.pl/rh		EDITORIAL COMMITTEE E-mail: reshistorica@umcs.pl	