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## ***Victoria Bates, Sexual Forensics in Victorian and Edwardian England: Age, Crime and Consent in the Courts***

Victoria Bates, *Sexual Forensics in Victorian and Edwardian England: Age, Crime and Consent in the Courts* (Genders and Sexualities in History), Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016. Pp. 208. £58. ISBN 978 1 137 44170 6.

[Seth Stein LeJacq](#)

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Victoria Bates's *Sexual Forensics* is a valuable addition to a rich recent

historiography dealing with forensic medicine and an important new account of forensic medicine and sexual crime. The book combines traditional approaches to legal and medico-legal history with methods and questions derived from cultural history and the social history of medicine to enter into conversations with a wide range of subfields and research areas—from feminist legal theory to the history of emotions, childhood studies to scholarship on masculinities. It will be of interest to a wide range of readers.

Bates's central concern is to recover the complex ways in which categories like class, gender, and above all age operated in Victorian and Edwardian thought about, and legal and medico-legal treatment of, sex, sexuality and sexual crime. Much like contemporaries,...

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