



## Worrying about Emotions in History

Rosenwein, Barbara H. (2001) *Worrying about Emotions in History*. The American historical review, 107 (3). pp. 821-845. ISSN 0002-8762



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### Abstract

As a medievalist, I have cause to be worried about emotions in history. I do not worry about the emotions themselves: people in the past, as now, expressed joy, sorrow, anger, fear, and many other feelings; these emotions had multiple meanings then (as they do today); they had their effects on others and were manipulated in turn (as ours do and are). What medievalists - indeed, all historians who want to get their history right - must worry about is how historians have treated emotions in history. The purpose of this article is to survey the historiography of emotions in Western history and to suggest some fresh ways to think about the topic.

**Tipologia del documento:** Articolo in rivista

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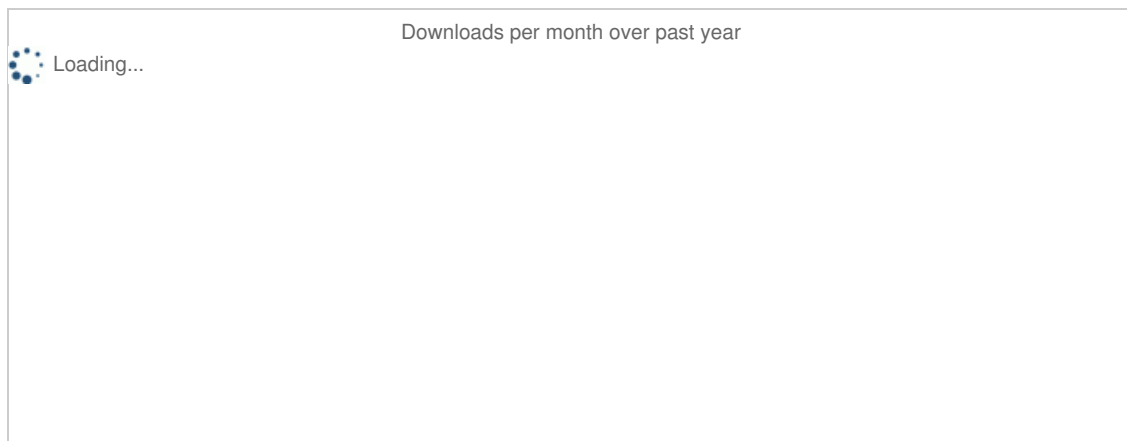
**Depositato da:** dr Vincenzo De Luise

**Depositato il:** 28 Dic 2014 16:38

**Ultima modifica:** 28 Dic 2014 16:38

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Barbara H Rosenwein. Published: 1 June 2002. in The American Historical Review. The American Historical Review , Volume 107. PubMed. Share this article. Click here to see the statistics on "The American Historical Review" . New Search. Cooperation: The History and Sociology of Emotions in the. Search for the Explanation of "Emotional Turn" (On the Russian. Translation of the Jan Plamper's The History of Emotions). Olga Simonova. Candidate of Sociological Sciences, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, National Research University. Rosenwein B. (2002) Worrying about the Emotions in History. American Historical Review, vol. 107, no 3, pp. 821-845. 38 See Barbara H. Rosenwein, "Worrying about Emotions in History," American Historical Review 107 (2002), pp. 821-45, esp. 842-45; eadem, Emotional Communities in the Early Mid-dle Ages (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2006). 11. It is also important for the historian to keep in mind that emotions are sometimes used not to express or to describe feelings but to label others: is an "angry mob" angry according to the participants or because it is thus described by hostile observers? If the latter is the case, the historian may wish to ask about.