

Nuova Rivista Storica

Anno XCIII, Settembre-Dicembre 2009, Fascicolo III

Abstracts

MARIA ANNA NOTO, *Rebellio o defensio licita?* La rivolta di Benevento contro la Bolla «dei Vizi» del 1566

The city revolt of Benevento is placed in the period of the rigoristic increase of the papal legislation by Pio V Ghislieri, who, pursuing the objective of moral regeneration and social control, aims to introduce new judicial procedures for the investigation of the crime. The emanation of «Bolla dei Vizi» in 1566, in the perspective of a labile border between sin and crime, produces the rebellion of Benevento town against the application of the feared procedure of secret denunciation. The dramatic episode reveals the attempt of the community to resist to centralizing laws and records the strategies of negotiation between the periphery and the centre, that are inspired to a contractual vision of the power, progressively limited by the extension of the sphere of the crime of «lesa maestà» with the absolute State. Communitarian resistance rights and factious interests lead dynamics of this city disorder that assumes a peculiar and, at the same time, paradigmatic value in the scene of the Sixteenth Century revolts.