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Abstracts

LUCA AL SABBAGH, Tra satanismo e reato sessuale. Il caso di Domenico Costantini nella Reggio Emilia del tardo XVIII secolo

The priest Domenico Costantini from the oratory of St. Phillip Neri in Reggio Emilia was a cleric investigated for sexual offences and Satanism between 1772 and 1779. He incurred into two trials over that period: the first one was held by the Inquisition Court, as widely researched by Giuseppe Orlandi, while the second, almost unknown to the academic world, was led by the Episcopal Court of Reggio Emilia. The paper suggests the re-enactment of the legislative procedures related to this father of the Saint Phillip Neri clerical order, through archivist research, related to this particular period of time where the main clerical courts of the city were losing influence in favour to the ducal ones during the jurisdictionalism. These two trials, analysed in this paper, fully show how the collective consciousness on the satanic rituals was still deeply rooted in the citizenry and it exposes the existence of sexual crimes within the ecclesiastical community, which was constantly chased but hard to get rid of and still extremely current.

Keywords:

*Satanism
Sexual crimes
Roman Inquisition*