

Dissertation Abstract: Angeliki Pappa

Suggested Title: The rhetoric of Fraternal Bonds in Attic Forensic Oratory

The institution of family in classical Athens has undoubtedly been the object of numerous studies and has been examined through socio-historical, anthropological, sociological, legal and economic prisms. In the context of research on the family and of the various issues that have arisen concerning this institution, a number of researchers have undertaken—each from their own area of knowledge—to examine the relationships developed amongst the *oikos* members, by focusing their scope on a variety of literary genres (oratory, historiography, comedy, tragedy, etc.), as well as epigraphs.

The study area of the proposed doctoral thesis will be focused and delimited in the fraternal relationships and the way in which they were represented and employed in the Attic forensic oratory of the 5th and 4th century BCE. No study has thus far examined the way the fraternal bonds are rhetorically put to use in forensic speeches. The proposed thesis aims to fill in this bibliographical gap.

The study will be articulated in three main axes. First, a holistic presentation of fraternal bonds in classical Athens will be undertaken, on the basis of all ancient resources. In addition, the theoretical questions that have arisen on the topic and have preoccupied research so far will be meticulously put forward. The second and more extensive chapter of the doctoral thesis aims to examine the rhetorical use of the fraternal relationships in the texts of Attic forensic oratory. Throughout the study, all the extracts with a direct or indirect mention of the relationships among siblings will be indexed, while a grouping and categorization of the speeches, based on the rhetoric used in each case, will be undertaken. The main questions that will be of concern in this part of the thesis are to what extent and how the rhetoric of the fraternal bonds remains the same or is altered according to the gender and number of siblings, their order of birth, the quality of the fraternal relation (full or half siblings, with the same father or mother), as well as their parents' status (especially if there is suspicion about the mother's status).

Moreover, the thesis will research the way in which law regulations and different practices and institutions that were intertwined with the family, such as marriage (either of the siblings or one of the parents after divorce or death of the other spouse), dower, adoption, guardianship, composition of a testament and inheritance claims influence the rhetoric of fraternal relationships. A further issue to be parallelly examined is the argumentation (*atechnoi* and *entechnoi pisteis*) employed for the topic under study, through which the orator, in each case, demonstrates the importance of the parameter of fraternal bonds for his case (*euresis/inventio*), for the way in which he pronounces it (*lexis/elocutio*) and the specific speech parts in which he chooses to place it (*taxis/dispositio*). The last chapter of the proposed study will articulate the

conclusions drawn from the meticulous research of forensic speeches in conjunction with the previous criteria and categorizations.