

Information on Samples

The extensiveness of Bologna's unindexed criminal court archive has necessitated the taking of samples. The impact of the plague during the 1630s, the political turmoil of the early 1650s as well as the changing organisation of record keeping around the same time have been convincing arguments to select 1655 as a first sample year, followed by the less tumultuous years of 1675, 1705, 1725 and 1755, stopping just before the economic crisis fully impacted the city. For these sample years I have selected three datasets. The first dataset consists of 910 *processi* and represents all extant urban investigation dossiers for the five sample years. The data collected for these cases is less detailed than for the other samples and serves primarily to reveal representative, quantitative patterns of criminal prosecution and possible developments throughout time. The second dataset consists of one or more casebooks by a notary for each of the sample years. This resulted in a collection of 1,070 denunciations and 207 *processi* that were kept either in the back of these casebooks or later in its second, accompanying volume. The qualitative analyses in this book are based on these sources, as well as on a third data collection of 77 additional *processi*. These *processi* were selected at random for years surrounding the sample years, the only criteria being that a woman was named on the front sheet as one of the defendants.

1 Sample 1: Exhaustive and Representative Sample of Extant *Processi* for Urban Bologna for the Years 1655, 1675, 1705, 1725 and 1755

Archivio di Stato di Bologna, Tribunale del Torrione, Atti e processi, Book 6653 to 8179.

TABLE 25 Number of cases and defendants within the samples

	Type	Cases	Defendants			
			Women	Men	Total	Unidentified
Sample 1	<i>Processi</i>	910	70	1287	1357	62
Sample 2a	Denunciations	1070	241	903	1144	214
Sample 2b	<i>Processi</i>	204	20	287	307	7
Sample 3	<i>Processi</i>	77	91	61	152	–

This first dataset consists of 910 *processi* collected from 81 books and represents all extant urban investigation dossiers for the five sample years that I was able to locate in the archive. The data collected for these cases is less-detailed than for the other samples and serves primarily to reveal representative, quantitative patterns of criminal prosecution and possible developments throughout time.

2 Sample 2a: Non-exhaustive Sample of Urban Denunciations Derived from Several Notaries' Casebooks Centring around the Years 1655, 1675, 1705, 1725 and 1755

Archivio di Stato di Bologna, Tribunale del Torrione, Atti e processi, Book 6609, 6620, 6653, 7028, 7044, 7608-1, 7869-1, 8171-1.

The second dataset consists of a random sample of eight notaries' casebooks centring on the sample years. This has resulted in a collection of 1,070 denunciations. They have been examined in detail and have also been used for qualitative analyses of the sources.

3 Sample 2b: Non-exhaustive Sample of Urban *Processi* from Several Notaries' Casebooks Centring around the Years 1655, 1675, 1705, 1725 and 1755

Archivio di Stato di Bologna, Tribunale del Torrione, Atti e processi, Book 6596, 6609, 6620, 6653, 7028, 7044, 7055, 7077, 7608-2, 7869-2, 8171-2.

This second part of the second dataset consists of 204 *processi* found in the same notaries' casebooks as in sample 2a. They were either kept in the back of the casebooks in which the denunciations were written or were recorded in their accompanying, dedicated volumes (for example referred to as part 2). These *processi* have received the same treatment as the aforementioned denunciations, allowing for a qualitative analysis.

4 Sample 3: Non-exhaustive Sample of Additional Urban *Processi* from 1654 to 1757

Archivio di Stato di Bologna, Tribunale del Torrione, Atti e processi, Book 6526 to 8179-2.

The qualitative analyses in this book are also based on a third data collection of 77 additional *processi*. These *processi* were collected from 42 books for years surrounding the sample years, with the only criteria that a woman was named on the front sheet as one of the defendants. They were examined in the same in-depth way as sample 2.