



Illustrations of Satirical Magazines as a Source for the History of Marriage and Family (the Soviet Period)



Alexandra Levashova

Ivanovo State University, Institute of Humanities, 1st year Master in History

Introduction

Since its inception, the periodical press has had the most serious impact on public life. However, it should be noted that the coverage of the topic of newspaper illustrations from the point of view of sources is practically absent in modern science, regardless of the historical period.

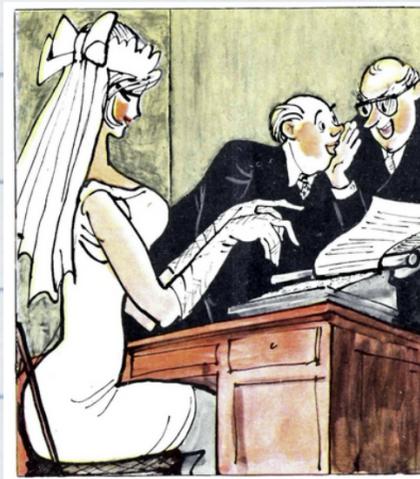


In their illustrations, the artists ridiculed the reality, where there were not enough basic conditions for the family to live. Looking at these drawings, even if they are caricatures, you can see how much the role of a man in the family is reduced as contrasted to the portrait of a strong woman.



Quite a few drawings are devoted to the attitude of society to marriage in general. Apparently, using negative examples, they tried to instill other positive qualities in Soviet married couples. There were humorously depicted couples where the woman was much larger than the man, and very often the husband was a big boss. And couples who were not equal in age were severely criticized. So, the material analyzed shows, that satirists put their characters in different situations.

The inequality of women in everyday life, the complexity of the combination of a housewife and a social worker are also shown in the materials of the magazine "Crocodile." To show the unequal position of women in everyday life and their full load of household chores, satirists often used the topic of March 8, the holiday for women.



Conclusion

Through the satirical images of magazine illustrations, the authors tried to show such vices of society as adultery, dependency and weakness of men, their frivolous attitude to marriage.

The satirical materials show the peculiarities of the distribution of family roles, the "double standard" of behavior and morality, ideas about gender differences, the structure of the kinship group and the possibility of authoritarianism.

