Relationship stories: Between love, care and conflict. Marriages and Couple Relations in Germany (1945–1990)

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In the course of modernity, especially since 1945, its character as an emotional couple's relationship displaced marriage as a sacrament and as a contract, in short as a socially legitimized and standardized as well as institutionalized form of living together. This book project is based on the finding that the internal perspective on relationships in historical research has so far been neglected, which could make this change comprehensible in the first place. This is where the project comes in, investigating the dynamics and developments at the level of couples against the background of the demographic, institutional, political and normative changes already known in marriages. With the analysis of the FRG and the GDR, the question of the social transformation beyond the political systems is to be posed.