

**Perry, M. (2011) “Quintus Haterius and the ‘Dutiful’ Freedman: The Consideration of Sexual Conduct between Patrons and Freedpersons in Roman Law” *Ancient History Bulletin* 25.3-4, 133-48.**

According to the Elder Seneca, the orator Quintus Haterius once defended a freedman charged with being the sexual partner of his male patron using the phrase: “*Inpudicitia* in a freeborn man is a crime, in a slave is a necessity, and in a freedman is a duty.” This article illustrates how Haterius’s statement is not evidence for a compulsory obligation but nonetheless speaks to the unique position of freedpersons in Roman society. Even as it protected their citizen status, Roman law compelled freedpersons to remain in a deferential relationship with their former owners, in which they might endure conduct and circumstances deemed inappropriate and degrading for other citizens.