

Foubert, L. (2016) “The lure of an exotic destination: the politics of women's travels in the Early Roman Empire”, *Hermes* 144, 462-87.

This article discusses how women's travels in the early imperial period threatened the 'natural' socio-cultural hierarchy of the Roman upper-classes. The main threads of the ideological discourse on women's mobility are mapped through an examination of a senatorial debate in 21 CE as presented by Tacitus in his *Annals*. It also studies literary motifs that have shaped the representation of women and men travellers to indicate to what extent ancient mobility was gendered. Central to this examination is the elites' fear is the corrupting and disrupting power of the exotica of foreign nations and the effects on men's and women's Romanness.