

**Foubert, F. (2016) “Crowded and emptied houses as status markers of aristocratic women in Rome: the literary commonplace of the *domus frequentata*”, *Eugesta. Journal on Gender Studies in Antiquity* 6, 1-22.**

This article focuses on the literary commonplace of the *domus frequentata* or the crowded house of Julio-Claudian women. Because of the increasing public visibility of the women of the imperial family, their residence, or, more specifically, the domestic space that was associated with these women, became a locus of public life. Whereas state-regulated media, show that these women were given a visible role in public life and were consequently considered as influential members of society, they were never recognized as formal players in the struggle for power. Describing their residence and its visitors enabled ancient writers to point this out. The ‘house’ was a supposedly small, domestic, space in which writers could situate wider issues of imperial authority, imbalance in gender, and power relations.