

**Mastrososa, I.G. (2019) “ Gender e potere fra tarda repubblica e alto impero: la lettura di Cassio Dione”, *Giornale italiano di filologia*, 71, 301-33.**

The paper focuses on the Roman History of Cassius Dio in order to explore his perception of an evolution in the role of women in the late Republican Rome and Early Empire. Dio recorded the tendency of some prominent exponents of the political system of the late Seventies of the first century BC onwards to exploit women in the creation of political alliances, thus providing an image of them as passive players (though with some exceptions shown for instance by Fulvia and Cleopatra). As regards the Early Empire, he realized that some matrons (first of all Augustus' wife, Livia) used their maternal role to reach an increasingly strong position, taking advantage of the political progress towards autocracy. Dio's interest in the changing political position of women at the imperial court of the first century might have been influenced by his knowledge of the significant role of the women of the Severan dynasty, during which he was writing his Roman History.