
Acknowledgements
Introduction by James Sharpe
Preface by E. E. Evans-Pritchard
Abbreviations and conventions

SOURCES AND STATISTICS

1 Problems and sources in the study of witchcraft
2 The legal background to witchcraft prosecutions at the secular courts
3 The intensity of witchcraft prosecutions: evidence from Assize and Quarter Sessions records
4 Witchcraft accusations in other legal courts
   Evidence from the ecclesiastical records
   Borough records
   Central records
5 Literary sources for the study of witchcraft
   The background to formal prosecutions; evidence from the witchcraft pamphlets
   Contemporary comments on witchcraft prosecutions; evidence from literary sources
6 The background to witchcraft prosecutions in three Essex villages, 1560-99

COUNTERING WITCHCRAFT

7 Informal counter-action against witchcraft
8 Cunning folk and witchcraft prosecutions
9 The witch-finding movement of 1645 in Essex

WITCHCRAFT AND THE SOCIAL BACKGROUND

10 Witchcraft prosecutions and economic problems
11 Witchcraft prosecutions and social phenomena (1): personality, sex, age, and marriage
12 Witchcraft prosecutions and social phenomena (2): kin and neighbours
13 Witchcraft prosecutions and illness
14 Witchcraft prosecutions and religion
15 Witchcraft beliefs as an explanation of suffering and a means of resolving conflict
16 Reasons for the rise and decline of witchcraft prosecutions

A COMPARATIVE FRAMEWORK: ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDIES

17 The anthropological approach to the study of witchcraft (1): beliefs and counter-actions
   The ideology of witchcraft
   Counter-action against witchcraft
18 The anthropological approach to the study of witchcraft (2): the sociology of accusations
19 Some anthropological interpretations of witchcraft

APPENDICES

1 Abstracts of Essex witchcraft cases, 1560-1680:

2 Definitions of witchcraft

Bibliography of printed and unprinted sources

Place index of Essex witchcraft references

General index