

## **Stay or Leave?**

### **Family Survival Tactics during the Age of Emigrations, 1770-1830s**

Interdisciplinary Workshop at the Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften of Goethe University  
Frankfurt am Main, Bad Homburg v.d.H. // 24-26 July 2025

#### **Organization:**

Prof. Dr. Frederike Middelhoff (Frankfurt), PD Dr. Friedemann Pestel, Deputy Professor of  
Modern History (Tübingen), Ass. Prof. Dr. Kelly Summers (Edmonton)

During the Age of Revolutions (c. 1770-1830), Europe and the Americas were convulsed by a wave of interrelated political upheavals, social protests, slave rebellions, and wars. Republican alternatives to monarchies proliferated, even as colonial wars and abolitionist insurrections shook even the most entrenched empires. As a result, hundreds of thousands of people found themselves displaced and dispersed across the Atlantic world. While some chose to leave out of political or religious principle, others were forced out by some combination of ideological persecution, economic dislocation, and armed conflict. Wherever they ended up, the uprooted were forced to negotiate foreign and often hostile cultures and asylum practices.

While this momentous epoch has inspired much study, scholars have only recently drawn attention to the fact that the Age of Revolutions was also, inextricably, an age of both emigration and re-migration. Migrants were predominantly male, and have been studied as such, but they often brought or left behind networks of dependents including female relations, minors, servants and friends. Indeed, the navigation of gender norms and family relations were integral parts of the exilic experience. Drawing together historians and scholars of the literary, visual, and musical arts, this workshop aims to shed light on the least-visible members of these diasporas—women, children and servants—and to develop interdisciplinary perspectives on familial constellations of exile.

#### **Thursday, 24 July 2025**

##### **Conference Room, Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Bad Homburg**

15:30 Frederike Middelhoff (Goethe University Frankfurt), Friedemann Pestel (University of Tübingen), Kelly Summers (MacEwan University, Edmonton): Welcome & Introduction

Chair: Frederike Middelhoff

16:00-17:00

Donovan Fifiield (University of Virginia): The Transatlantic Structure of Loyalists' Family Relations during the American Revolution: A Comparative Study of the Apthorps and Hutchinsons of Massachusetts

17:30-18:30

Sidney Watts (University of Richmond): Emigrant Women, Children, Governess, and a Piano:  
The Transatlantic Migration and Settlement of the Du Pont Household (1797–1830)

### **Friday, 25 July 2025**

Chair: Hanna Maria Hofmann (TU Dortmund University)

09:30-10:30

Friedemann Pestel (University of Tübingen): Surviving Emigration and Non-emigration: The  
Chateaubriand Family at the Margins of Revolution and Exile

11:00-13:00

Elias Buchetmann (University of Rostock): Therese Huber in Exile: Navigating Family, Politics,  
and Literature in the 1790s

Till Breyer (Ruhr University Bochum): Therese Huber's Displaced Families

Chair: Kelly Summers

14:30-15:30

Victoria Bergbauer (Princeton University), Miqueias Mugge (Princeton University): Displaced:  
Family, Morality, and Home-Making in the Atlantic World [hybrid format]

15:30-16:30

Elodie Duché (York St John University): The 'People Left At Home': Families of British  
Prisoners of War on Parole in Napoleonic France and Mauritius

17:00-18:00 Comment and General Discussion: Hanna Maria Hofmann (TU Dortmund  
University)

### **Saturday 26 July 2025**

Chair: Steffan Davies (University of Bristol)

09:15-10:15

Kelly Summers (MacEwan University, Edmonton): Torn Loyalties and Thwarted Livelihoods: The  
Burney-d'Arblays and the Challenges of Bi-National Marriage during the Age of Emigrations

10:45-11:45

Frederike Middelhoff (Goethe University Frankfurt): Care Work: Exile, Return and the Family in  
Caroline de la Motte Fouqué's Historical Fiction

11:45-12:45

Claudia Roesch (University of Konstanz): What if One Spouse Wishes to Emigrate While the  
Other Wishes to Remain? Consular Correspondence about Württemberg Pietist Migration to  
Pennsylvania, 1804–1837

Chair: Friedemann Pestel

13:45-14:45

Oliver Zajac (Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava): The Charitable Society Towarzystwo Dobroczyńności Dam Polskich as an Example of Public Engagement by Polish Female Émigrés during the Post-1831 Great Emigration

14:45-15:30

Comment and General Discussion: Steffan Davies

Closing Remarks & Farewell