

## Violence and the French Religious Wars

Consider the following questions in the light of selected items from the recommended reading below.

**How have historians explained/accounted for/understood the role of violence during the wars?**

**What sorts of sources have they used to do so and how reliable are they?**

### Recommended Reading:

[For those unfamiliar with the wars, I'd recommend as a starting point:

Mack P. Holt, *The French Wars of Religion, 1562-1629* (1995; 2<sup>nd</sup> edn 2005)

R.J. Knecht, *The French Civil Wars, 1562-1598* (2000)

David Potter, *The French Wars of Religion: Selected Documents* (1997)]

### On Violence

Natalie Z. Davis, 'The Rites of Violence', in her *Society and Culture in Early Modern France* (1975), chap. 6; also in *Past and Present*, 59 (1973)

& J. Garrisson-Estèbe, 'Debate: The Rites of Violence: Religious Riot in Sixteenth-Century France', *Past and Present*, 67 (1975), 127-35

Graeme Murdock, Penny Roberts and Andrew Spicer (eds), *Ritual and Violence: Natalie Zemon Davis and Early Modern France* (2012)

David Nicholls, 'The Theatre of Martyrdom in the French Reformation', *Past and Present*, 121 (1988), 49-73

Mark Greengrass, 'The Psychology of Religious Violence', *French History*, 5 (1991), 467-74

'Hidden Transcripts: Secret Histories and Personal Testimonies of Religious Violence in the French Wars of Religion', in Mark Levene and Penny Roberts (eds), *The Massacre in History* (1999)

Allan A. Tulchin, 'The Michelade in Nîmes, 1567', *French Historical Studies*, 29 (2006), 1-35

Judith Pollmann, 'Countering the Reformation in France and the Netherlands: Clerical Leadership and Catholic Violence', *Past and Present*, 190 (2006), 83-120

Philip Benedict, Lawrence M. Bryant, and Kristen B. Neuschel, 'Graphic History: What Readers Knew and Were Taught in the Quarante Tableaux of Perrissin and Tortorel', *French Historical Studies*, 28 (2005), 175-229

Philip Benedict, *Graphic History: the "Wars, massacres and troubles" of Tortorel and Perrissin* (2007)

Susan Broomhall, 'Reasons and Identities to Remember: Composing Personal Accounts of Religious Violence in Sixteenth-Century France', *French History*, 27 (2013), 1-20

Penny Roberts, 'French Historians and Collective Violence', *History and Theory*, 56, no. 4 (Dec. 2017), 60-75

Stuart Carroll, 'Political Justice and the Outbreak of the Wars of Religion', and Penny Roberts, 'Violence by Royal Command: A Judicial "Moment" (1574-1575)', both in *French History*, 33 (2019), 177-217