Contents

	Acknowledgements	vii
	Notes on Contributors	viii
	Foreword	xii
	List of illustrations and tables	xiii
PAR	T ONE: Defining Widowhood	1
1.	Introduction Sandra Cavallo and Lyndan Warner	3
	Men, women and widows: widowhood in pre-Conquest England Julia Crick	24
3.	Finding widowers: men without women in English towns before 1700 Margaret Pelling	37
PAR	T Two: Models and Paradoxes	55
4.	The widow's options in medieval southern Italy Patricia Skinner	57
5.	The virtuous widow in Protestant England Barbara J. Todd	66
6.	Widows, widowers and the problem of 'second marriages' in sixteenth-century France Lyndan Warner	84
7.	Marrying the experienced widow in early modern England: the male perspective Elizabeth Foyster	108

Contents

PAR	т тнкее: Marital and Family Constraints	125
8.	Lineage strategies and the control of widows in Renaissance Florence Isabelle Chabot	127
9.	Property and widowhood in England 1660–1840 Amy Louise Erickson	145
10.	Religious difference and the experience of widowhood in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Germany Dagmar Freist	164
PART FOUR: Narratives and Constructions of Widowhood		179
11.	Elite widows and religious expression in early modern Spain: the view from Avila Jodi Bilinkoff	181
12.	Widows at law in Tudor and Stuart England Tim Stretton	193
13.	Widows, the state and the guardianship of children in early modern Tuscany Giulia Calvi	209
14.	Survival strategies and stories: poor widows and widowers in early industrial England Pamela Sharpe	220
	Suggestions for reading on widowhood Index	240 262