Abstract: "Revertere ad ecclesiam meam!" Dreams, visions and exhortations to undertake a pilgrimage in the canonisation process of Nicholas of Tolentino

Dreams and visions were, qualitatively, a gender-specific feature in the depositions of the laity in the canonisation acts of Nicholas of Tolentino (AD 1325). Only men reported visions connected to liberation miracles: they had been captured by robbers and Saint Nicholas helped to liberate them. Men were relatively free to travel but faced dangers during their travels. Cases of Saint Nicholas urging the visionary to visit his shrine were all reported by women. Women were more bound to the domestic sphere and in need of further encouragement to a pilgrimage to a neighbouring city. These visions and exhortations testify to the gendered allocation of space and differences in the construction of masculinity and femininity.

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