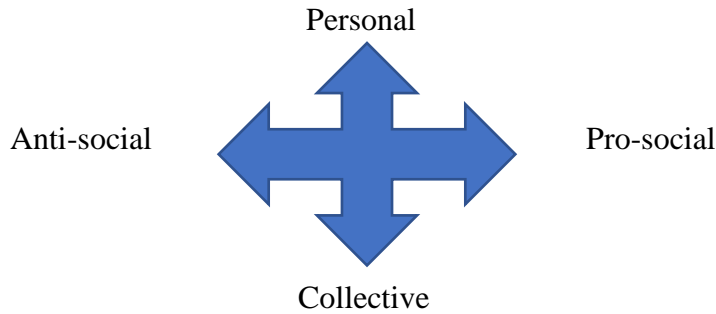


Imperial Fear in the *Historia Augusta*

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CAMWS 2021 Information Sheet

I. The axes of fear in Roman Literature



II. Typologies of fear in the *HA* (*timor/timeo, metus/metuo*)

a. Anti-social, personal fear

Av. Cass. 7.1; *Comm.* 17.3; *Pert.* 6.6; *Did. Iul.* 5.1; *Sev.* 5.6; *Clod. Alb.* 3.1; *Ant.* 3.7, 11.5; *Geta* 3.6, 6.5; *Opil.* 5.4-5; *Diad.* 5.5; *Heliog.* 16.1; *Alex.* 48.2; *Maximin.* 9.4; *Gord.* 9.2; *Max. et Balb.* 11.1, 11.4; *Gall.* 5.1; *Tyr. Trig.* 32.1; *Claud.* 5.2; *Aurelian.* 8.4, 22.6, 26.3, 26.5, 50.5; *Tac.* 6.6; *Prob.* 24.1; *Quatt. tyr.* 13.2, 15.1

i. Lack of fear equated with courage

Av. Cass. 3.7, 4.8, 9.7; *Alex.* 9.7, 52.3; *Gord.* 20.4; *Max. et Balb.* 16.4

b. Pro-social, personal fear (goad to virtue)

Hadr. 20.3; *Aur.* 29.5; *Verus* 5.8; *Clod. Alb.* 13.7-8 *Heliog.* 31.2; *Alex.* 6.5, 48.3, 65.1-2; *Max. et Balb.* 5.3

c. Anti-social, collective fear

Av. Cass. 3.6, 4.3, 12.9; *Comm.* 18.7, 18.15; *Pert.* 4.7, 6.3, 9.9; *Pesc. nig.* 11.5-6; *Geta* 7.4; *Maximin.* 8.6; 15.2, 23.6; *Gord.* 10.5, 22.1; *Max. et Balb.* 1.2, 1.4, 6.5 8.2; *Tyr. Trig.* 10.2, 26.1, 26.5; *Aurelian.* 18.4, 21.8, 36.6; *Quatt. tyr.* 13.1; *Car.* 2.6

i. Lack of collective fear equated with courage

Clod. Alb. 13.8; *Alex.* 9.5; *Max et. Balb.* 8.7

d. Pro-social, collective fear

i. Enemies, fearing Romans

Av. Cass. 4.9; *Gord.* 27.1-2; *Tyr. Trig.* 8.11, 30.7; *Prob.* 27.4; *Quatt. tyr.* 5.3-4

ii. Roman army fearing Emperor

Av. Cass. 4.8; *Pesc. Nig.* 3.11-12; *Gord.* 28.4; *Tyr. Trig.* 12.16; *Aurelian.* 7.3

iii. *Tac.* 2.2**

III. Key Examples

1. Personal, anti-social:

a. Comm. 17.3: adurens comam et barbam timore tonsoris

b. Gord. 26.3: et a Maximino multum timoris et fides Punica perurgueret, et acerrime Capelianus instaret, luctus deinde mentem atque animum fatigaret, laqueo vitam finivit.

2. Trope of the Tyrant's fear:

a. Quatt. tyr. 10.1: Nescitis, amici, quid mali sit imperare. gladii saeta pendent cervicibus imminent, hastae undique, undique spicula. ipsi custodes timentur, ipsi comites formidantur.

c.f. *Maximin.* 9.4: Et qui ab uno non potest occidi, a multis occiditur. ... cave multos, si singulos non times.

3. Fear opposed to virtue:

a. Aurelian. 26.5: Timet quasi femina; pugnat quasi poenam timens.

b. Claud. 5.2: Haec a Gallieno petenda fuerant; qui consentiret moribus, poterat et timere.

4. Pro-social, collective fear of the emperor:

a. Av. Cass. 4.8: Tunc conquiescentibus cunctis meruit timeri, quia ipse non timuit.

b. Aurelian. 7.3: Hic autem, ut supra diximus, militibus ita **timori** fuit ut sub eo, posteaquam semel cum ingenti severitate castrensia peccata correxit, nemo peccaverit.

5. Opposition to the *metus hostilis* theory:

a. Car. 2.6-3.1: sed eo usque gravata est Punicis bellis ac terrore Pyrrhi, ut mortalitatis mala praecordiorum timore sentiret. Crevit deinde victa Carthagine...

b. Quatt. tyr. 5.3-4: nihil est, Romulei Quirites, quod timere possitis.

c. Tyr. Trig. 30.7: possum adserere tanto apud orientales et Aegyptiorum populos timori mulierem fuisse ut se non Arabes, non Saraceni, non Armenii commoverent.

d. Prob. 27.4: ex quo tantum profecit ut Parthi legatos ad eum mitterent confitentes timorem pacemque poscentes, ille superbius acceptos magis timentes domum remisit.

6. Pro-social fear as goad to collective virtue:

Tac. 2.2: nullus usquam tyrannus emerit, sub iudicio senatus et militum populique Romani totus orbis est temperatus; non illi principem quemquam, ut recte facerent, non tribuniciam potestatem formidabant, sed--quod est in vita optimum--se timebant.

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