

Lobbying in Company: Mechanisms of political decision-making and economic interests in the history of Dutch Brazil, 1621-1656 Tol, J.J.S. van den

Citation

Tol, J. J. S. van den. (2018, March 20). *Lobbying in Company: Mechanisms of political decision-making and economic interests in the history of Dutch Brazil, 1621-1656*. Retrieved from https://hdl.handle.net/1887/61008

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Author: Tol, J.J.S. van den Title: Lobbying in Company: Mechanisms of political decision-making and economic interests in the history of Dutch Brazil, 1621-1656 Issue Date: 2018-03-20

STELLINGEN

- 1. People in the colonial periphery had a large influence on political decision-making in the metropolitan center.
- 2. People operating in- and outside the Dutch West India Company (WIC) played, through lobbying, a decisive role in the success and failure of the colonial experience in Brazil.
- 3. Lobbying alliances could be forged by shared interest and transcend traditional boundaries such as religion, nationality, gender, and class.
- 4. The three principal tools for lobbying people in the Early Modern period were petitions, personal relations, and public opinion.
- 5. Institutions do not exist because they are the most efficient solution to a problem, but because they are the outcome of lobbying.
- 6. Negotiation should be re-evaluated as a term of historical analysis of interactions between rulers and subjects.
- 7. The attention to the history of Early Modern Atlantic slavery in comparison to other commodities, other forms of labor, other geographical areas, and other historical periods is disproportional.
- 8. Carl Bridenbaugh's statement at the 1962 American Historical Association conference that 'the historian [should not] worship at the shrine of that Bitch-goddess, quantification' has become even more relevant in the age of increased access to data and digital research methods.
- 9. The low skill premium for academic degrees has led to higher profits for companies and needs to be remedied by lower admission- or graduation rates at Universities.
- 10. The default option for catering (at University-organized events) needs to be vegetarian in order to decrease CO₂ impact on the environment.
- 11. The current atmosphere in academia fails to preserve the best researchers, the best educators, and the best managers for the universities and the academic community at large.