



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Religious conversion in early modern English drama

Stelling, L.J.

Citation

Stelling, L. J. (2013, November 12). *Religious conversion in early modern English drama*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/22211>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

License: [Leiden University Non-exclusive license](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/22211>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/22211> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

Author: Stelling, Lieke Julia

Title: Religious conversion in early modern English drama

Issue Date: 2013-11-12

Religious Conversion in Early Modern English Drama

Lieke Stelling

Cover Illustration: detail from Adriaen Pietersz. van de Venne, *De Zielenvisserij* (1614). Painting, oil on panel. Amsterdam: Rijksmuseum.
Cover design: Frank Stienen, frankstienen.nl

Religious Conversion in Early Modern English Drama

(met een samenvatting in het Nederlands)

Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van
de graad van Doctor aan de Universiteit Leiden,
op gezag van Rector Magnificus prof.mr. C.J.J.M. Stolker,

volgens besluit van het College voor Promoties
te verdedigen op dinsdag 12 november 2013
klokke 15.00 uur

door

Lieke Julia Stelling

geboren te Utrecht

in 1982

Promotor: Prof. dr. P.Th.M.G. Liebregts (Universiteit Leiden)
Co-promotor: Dr. J.F. van Dijkhuizen (Universiteit Leiden)

Overige commissieleden: Prof. dr. J. Pollmann (Universiteit Leiden)
Prof. dr. F.W.A. Korsten (Universiteit Leiden)
Dr. H. Smith (University of York)

For my parents

Contents

Note on texts and dates.....	9
Introduction.....	11
 <i>Part I: Spiritual Conversion</i>	
Chapter 1 'Be by Me Converted:' Conversion in Medieval and Reformation Drama.....	37
Chapter 2 'The Whole Summe of Christianitie:' Spiritual Conversion in Protestant Sermons	61
Chapter 3 'My Heart is Hardened Quight:' Election Doctrine and the Staging of Conversion	81
Chapter 4 'Licentious Religion' and Nostalgia: Dramatic Responses to the Erosion of Spiritual Conversion	101
 <i>Part II: Interfaith Conversion</i>	
Chapter 5 'More Stable and Perfect Faith:' Religious Pluralization and the Paradox of Interfaith Conversion .	121
Chapter 6 'False Runagates' and 'Superlunatical Hypocrites' Securing Religious Identity on the Stage	145
Chapter 7 'Most Beautiful Pagan; Most Sweet Jew:' Preserving Christianity in Authentic Conversions	181
Chapter 8 'For Christian Shame:' Othello's Assimilation Into Venice	203
Conclusion	219
Appendix: list of Spiritual and Interfaith Conversion Plays	225
Bibliography	227
Samenvatting in het Nederlands (Summary in Dutch).....	245
Dankwoord (Acknowledgments)	253
Curriculum Vitae	255

Note on texts and dates

Quotations from the Bible are taken from the King James Version, unless stated otherwise. Quotations from Shakespeare are taken from *The Norton Shakespeare*, edited by Stephen Greenblatt and others (New York and London: W.W. Norton & Company, 2008). In quotations from sixteenth- and seventeenth-century texts, I retain original spellings, but modernise “long s,” u/v and i/j, except in titles. Dates of plays, inserted parenthetically after the title, sometimes appear more precise than they are. I give the years when they were most probably first presented according to *Annals of English Drama 975–1700: An Analytical Record of All Plays, Extant or Lost, Chronologically Arranged and Indexed by Authors, Titles, Dramatic Companies & C.*, edited by Alfred Bennett Harbage, Samuel Schoenbaum and Sylvia Stoler Wagonheim, 3rd ed. (London: Routledge, 1989). I try to present exact dates when relevant to my argument.

