

Another manifestation of the cohesiveness of the immediate family that appeared in the jurisprudence of the 16th century, and became a maxim of the law, virtually, in the centuries that followed, was the notion of "family secrets". It has been suggested that the ~~idea~~ aim of the retrait lignagier, when it originated in the 13th century, was to protect the copropriete familiale from being alienated--i.e., it was the ~~entire~~ <sup>commonly</sup> protection of the land that the family owned as ~~an~~ an extended unit. Already in 1521, however, the origin of the retrait successorale is seen in ~~the~~ desire to recover an alienated ~~propres~~ because it would allow a stranger into the bosom of the family secrets. It is not, therefore, the value of the land ~~as in olden times~~, but the character of the family fortune, which now much diversified, which must be kept secret. In ~~the~~ 1556 a similar uproar occurred when ~~the~~ it was proposed that notarial records for the previous twenty years be ~~investigated~~ investigated to see what property had changed hands in Paris without paying seigneurial ~~rights~~ "lods et ventes" due when sales took place; ~~the~~ Parliament remonstrated against the "perilous opening into secrets of the ~~houses~~ <sup>mansions</sup> of Paris" that would take place. The classic instance of this came in a pleading by the famous avocat Louis Servin, in 1613, invoking ~~the~~ Roman Law ~~enacted~~ enacted to block "buyers of inheritances" as the analogue to the French retrait, as the only way to prevent strangers from "entering the secrets of a family, ~~and~~ ~~the~~ expropriating its goods and vexing the depriving the true heirs." By the 18th century, in the opus of Bourjon designed to synthesize French coutumiers as much as possible, the very purposes of the retrait successorale is <sup>referred to be</sup> to preserve <sup>turn it</sup> family secrets. In short, what was once a means of ~~holding~~ preventing profligacy and diminishing the common family ~~property~~ <sup>lands became</sup> ~~now~~ now by the end of the ancient regime, when property could be ~~freely~~ exchanged and sold freely (as long as the value of the ~~propres~~ ~~was preserved~~), simply a means to allow each ~~family~~ nuclear family (for only the ~~heirs~~ ~~could~~ ~~inherit~~ the retrait) to keep its precise fortune secret. As Pierre Goubert has said about the paying of taxes in the ancien regime: "l'ideal commun du Francais: payer peu, ou rien,..en ce temps comme au nôtre" (Anc. Rég. II, 150) can be said equally <sup>or</sup> about the secrecy ~~kept~~ of family fortunes.

Clergy 879  
 Family name #15

Retrait  
 Lignagier

Servin Act N. 1613  
 1613  
 (1613)

Bourjon 1794  
 Retrait

Retrait successorale  
 Bourjon

Retrait successorale  
 Bourjon

Falletti (1613) argues that keeping  
 France's out was a good idea (Boucher), keeping  
 in France the ~~idea~~ idea was ~~not~~ not a secret  
 inheritance. But this process is again reversed, in 1616 etc