

Contents

List of Illustration and Tables	ix
Acknowledgments	xi
Introduction	1
PART 1: THE LATE COLONIAL PERIOD	21
1. A Caracas for the Mantuanos, 1700–1811	23
2. Law and Its Operation	60
3. Women and Men at the Tribunals	92
PART 2: THE EARLY REPUBLIC	105
4. A Nation for the Landowners	107
5. Equality before the Law	132
6. Ciudadanas versus Padres de Familia	150
PART 3: THE LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY	171
7. Bourgeois Caracas, 1870–1888	173
8. Women, Order, and Progress	190
9. Contesting Gender Meanings from Below	213
10. Conclusion	235
Notes	243
Bibliography	309
Index	329

Illustration and Tables

ILLUSTRATION

Bolívar con alegoría de América

114

TABLES

1.	Conspiracies, Riots, and Insurrections in Eighteenth-Century Venezuela	32
2.	Gender and Social Class of Complainants, 1786–1790	62
3.	Type of Lawsuit by Social Class of Litigants, Caracas, 1786–1790	63
4.	Type of Claim by Type of Court, Caracas, 1786–1790	64
5.	Social Class of Litigants by Type of Court, 1786–1790	65
6.	Women's Roles in Court Cases, Caracas, 1835–1840	138
7.	Claimants, Caracas, 1835–1840	139
8.	Type of Lawsuit by Social Class of Litigants, Caracas, 1835–1840	140
9.	Percentage of Lawsuits by Type of Court, Caracas, 1786–1880	182
10.	Number of Civil and Criminal Lawsuits by Year, Caracas, 1835–1840 and 1875–1880	191
11.	Social Class of Litigants in Caracas, 1786–1880	193
12.	Social Class of Litigants by Type of Claim, Caracas, 1875–1880	194