USING VOICE THREADS TO ANALYZE IMAGES

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Weigle Information Commons
Engaging Students Through Technology Lightning Round
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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

• Fields include gender studies, history of sexuality
• Seminar courses taught online with Canvas site and Adobe Connect web conferencing room
• Students – variety of academic backgrounds, ages:
  • Adult students from the Master of Liberal Arts Program
  • Occasionally other graduate students from SAS, other schools at Penn
  • Some advanced undergraduates
Empower students to:
• Develop their own interpretations of complex sources;
• Understand historical context;
• Explore interdisciplinary methods;
• Examine texts and images carefully;
• Contribute to a highly interactive, engaged atmosphere.
GSWS 420 WITCHCRAFT AND GENDER IN THE EARLY MODERN WORLD
WHY VOICE THREADS?

• Versatile
• PPT format – image friendly
• Drawing tools
• Encourage active engagement with source and peers
HANS BALDUNG GRIEN, THE WITCHES’ SABBATH (1510)
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FRONTISPIECE, BISHOP PETER BINSFIELD’S
TRACTATUS DE CONFESSIONIBUS MALEFICORUM
ET SAGARUM (1589)

The first part of this image I’ve circled, the witch lowering an infant into a
boiling cauldron, references one of the
most despicable crimes witches were accused of:
harassing children, or even sacrificing children to the
Devil. The witch’s reprehensible actions are
juxtaposed with her clearly well-made attire and
carefully coiffed hair. In
comparison the earlier
images, which often
shown witches in various
states of undress, the
witches in this image
seem deceptively normal—perhaps even well-off or

Professional and Liberal Education