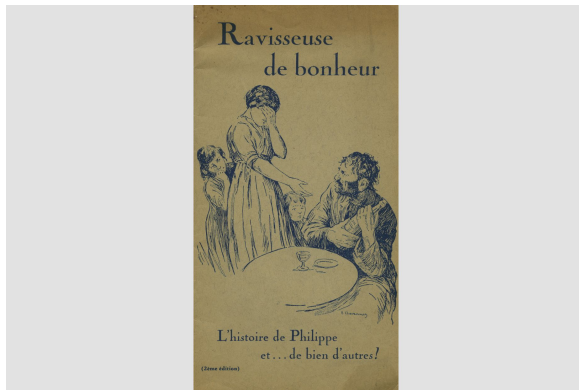


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Ravisseuse de Bonheur. The story of Philippe and... many others?

Accession Number 2018.17.07

Date 1939

Medium and Support ink, paper

Measurements 21 x 11,5 cm

Historical context

At the turn of the 20th century, industrialization and the accelerated urbanization that accompanied it created major concerns for both the state and the Catholic clergy. The vice of alcohol was seen as a major cause of urban problems. Indeed, alcohol was seen as both a medical and a moral issue. Against this backdrop, several campaigns were launched to dissuade the population from drinking. The newspaper *L'Action Catholique* continued to defend traditional society, condemning alcohol abuse as the primary cause of human misery. It also celebrates the victories won by temperance movements.

“*Ravisseuse de bonheur*” is a 48-page document describing the evils of alcohol in times of economic crisis (1939). The cover shows the family man’s despondent wife and frightened children, bottle in hand. *Action Catholique* refers to this work in its bookshop (*librairie de l’Action Catholique*), which it hopes will be “propagated in schools, especially among working-class and rural families”. Told in pictures, the story is accessible to all.