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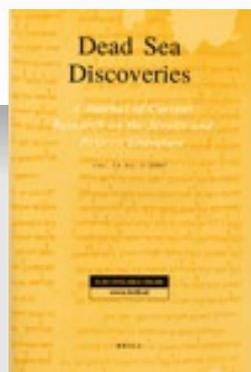
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Beyond the Qumran Community: Social Organization in the Dead Sea Scrolls



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The Dead Sea Scrolls refer to different kinds of communities. The *Damascus Document* speaks of people who live and marry and have children. The *Rule of the Community*, in contrast, does not speak of women or children at all, communities with a quorum of ten, as part of the *yahad*. The *Rule of the Community* also speaks enigmatically of who are supposed to go into the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord. It is possible but not certain that these Qumran settlement. Qumran was surely a sectarian settlement in Roman times. It is possible, but not proven, that the Romans came. It was never more than one of many sectarian settlements. The *yahad* should not be equated v



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