• The primary activity of witches was though to be the ‘sabbat’.

• This was a gathering of the witches and their accomplices to meet with the devil or various demons, to create noxious brews, eat babies and commit sexual acts with each other and the devil himself/his demons.

• The sabbats were seen as a perverse inversion of everything good, particularly with regards to the Christian faith.

• A recurring theme is a kiss they would greet the devil with on his anus, a perverse inversion of a more innocent and usual kiss on the mouth.

• Other inversions of normal behaviours included homosexual acts, orgies, incest, dancing naked/dancing backwards, killing and eating infants/babies, flying - particularly in household items such as broomsticks and pitchforks and committing sexual acts with the devil or demons.

• Many of these things can be linked with the ideals of women at this time. Women were expected to be faithful to their husbands, to not commit extra-marital or any sexual activities expect with their husband with the intention of procreation, so the the ideas of incest, orgies, homosexuality and sex with demons is an inversion of everything that chaste and honest women were supposed to embody. Women were often seen by the church of that time to be the weaker sex, easier to sway towards evil and illicit activities, particularly sexual.

• Women were also seen as the guardians of the household and the chief raisers of children, so to kill and eat the infants that they were supposed to be protecting, as well as using mundane household items such as the broomstick to fly on are examples of how these women were seen to be committing terrible acts, and shows a fear of any woman who decided to go against the grain and not act as she was supposed to.

• These are strong religious and misogynistic ideals that link to texts written during this period, such as the Malleus Maleficarum, written by Dominican monks, Kramer and Sprenger.