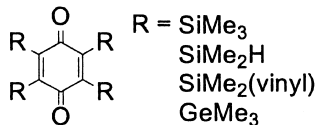
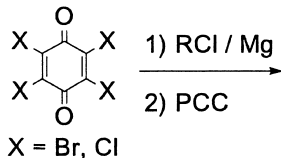


Synthesis, Structure, and Photochemistry of 2,3,5,6-Tetrasilyl-1,4-benzoquinones and Related Compounds

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2,3,5,6-Tetrasilyl- and 2,3,5,6-tetragermyl-1,4-benzoquinones were obtained by oxidation of the corresponding 1,4-dimetaloxybenzene derivatives with pyridinium chlorochromate. X-ray crystallographic analysis revealed that the quinone ring of 2,3,5,6-tetrakis(trimethylsilyl)-1,4-benzoquinone (**1a**) was distorted into a chair form. Photolysis of **1a** resulted in an isomerization, creating a ketene derivative, 4-carbonyl-2,3,5,5-tetrakis(trimethylsilyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one.