“A Herstory of Women
Women in History”
A Comparative History
through the Ages and Civilizations

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Women in History/ History of Women  
A Comparative History through the Ages and Civilizations

Women who seek to be equal with men lack ambition  
Timothy Leary.  

You are all you've got  
Janis Joplin

Remember no one can make you feel inferior without your consent.  
Eleanor Roosevelt

If you want something said, ask a man; if you want something done, ask a woman  
Margaret Thatcher.

If you want to sacrifice the admiration of many men for the criticism of one, go ahead, get married  
(Katherine Hepburn)
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Before Prehistory

- Unique to humans and chimps (Wrangham):
  - Patrilineal, male-bonded communities
  - Women move to neighboring groups
  - Male-initiated territorial aggression
  - Rate of male chimps that die of violence: 30%
  - Rate of men in primitive tribes who die of violence: 30%
  - Chimps and humans (that eat nuts, fruits and meat) have to travel to find food (unlike bonobos that eat leaves)
  - Travel slows down females that have to carry and nurse the infants
Before Prehistory

• Unique to humans and chimps:

  What makes this social world so extraordinary is comparison. Very few animals live in patrilineal, male-bonded communities wherein females routinely reduce the risks of inbreeding by moving to neighboring groups to mate. And only two animal species are known to do so with a system of intense, male-initiated territorial aggression, including lethal raiding into neighboring communities in search of vulnerable enemies to attack and kill. Out of four thousand mammals and ten million or more other animal species, this suite of behaviors is known only among chimpanzees and humans.17

  (Richard Wrangham)
Women in Pre-history

- Venus of Willendorf
  - Prototype of a female figurine found across an area of 2,000+ kms

(Willendorf, Austria, 30-20,000 BC)

(Brassempouy, France, 27-20,000 BC)
Women in Pre-history

- Catal Huyuk
  - Female figurines
  - Prominence of women in Çatal Hüyük society and culture
  - ”Women reigned supreme in religion, law and custom” (Marija Gimbutas)

A 12cm figurine of a woman on a throne with two leopards on either side of her, the head of the baby already visible (Catal Huyuk, 5000BC)
Women in Pre-history

- **Mother Goddess?**
  - Figurines of Catal Huyuk, Turkey
  - Figurines of Jericho, Palestine
  - Munhata’s goddess, Jordan (6,000 BC)
  - Figurines of Badari, Egypt (4,000 BC)
  - From the Syrian coast to the Zagros mountains from 3,600 BC
  - Figurines of Niniveh, Iraq
  - Figurines of Hagar Qim, Malta (3,000 BC)
  - Figurines of the Indus Valley (2,300 BC)
  - Xiwangmu (“Western mother”) of China (at least 1,700 BC)
  - Amaterasu (sun goddess of Japan)
Women in Pre-history

• Mother Goddess?

Cyprus, 2500 BC (Getty Villa)

Crete, 4500 BC (Heraclion Museum)

Malta, 3000 BC (Heraclion Museum)
Women in Pre-history

- Mother Goddess?
  - Female figurines dominate art for almost 30,000 years
  - Only major exception: Persia!
Women in Pre-history

• The female brain reaches full maturity between 21 and 22 years of age. The male brain does not reach full maturity until about 29. ("Sexual Dimorphism of Brain Developmental Trajectories During Childhood and Adolescence“, the world's largest study of brain development in children, conducted by the National Institutes of Health - NeuroImage, volume 36, number 4, pages 1065-1073, July 15 2007)

• Most people died before 25 in prehistoric societies
Women in Pre-history

- The women in ancient communal societies lived together, practicing their *religion* together as a fundamental way of life.
Women in Pre-history

- Diet of prehistoric humans: mostly plant food (meat was scavenged). Meat by hunting only provides occasional feast, while plants (gathered by women) constitute the staple food. Thus **woman the gatherer** may have been more important than **man the hunter** as a food provider.

[Images of Malawi and Yemen]
Women in Pre-history

• Cooking
  – In most primitive societies women cook for men
  – A woman cooking for a man means that they are engaged
  – The husband-wife bond is sometimes more exclusive for food than for sex (you can cheat with another man but not cook food for another man)
  – Cooking allowed humans to absorb more energy and freed them from time-consuming chewing
  – Cooking (fire) is easy to detect. The cook needed protection: man the food guard and woman the food provider
  – Origin of the human household?
Women in Pre-history

- Women's ancient role in *cloth-making* made them crucial to the survival of humans and to the developing economic system.
Women in Pre-history

Turkmenistan

Osh market
Women in Pre-history

• Ownership
  – Farming society
  – Value of labor
  – An animal is a good
  – A man is a good
  – A woman is a good
  – Society as a whole is a good

• Different forms of the same concept: ownership
  – Domestication of animals
  – Monandry (one husband only)
  – Slavery
  – Religion
Women in Pre-history

- Domestication, monandry, religion and slavery emerge at about the same time
Women in Pre-history

- **Monogamy**: both women and men have only one spouse at the time
- **Monogyny**: a man has only one spouse at the time (a woman can have many)
- **Monandry**: a woman has only one spouse at the time (a man can have many)
- **Polygamy**: both men and women can have many spouses at the time
- **Polygyny**: a man can have many wives at the time
- **Polyandry**: a woman can have many husbands at the time

Modern western civilization

See polyandry

Majority of pre-Greek civilizations, Jews, Islam, ?

See monandry
Polyandry

- Polygamy in nature
  - The great apes (gorillas, orangutans, chimpanzees) practice polygyny (many wives)
  - Gibbons are monogamous
  - Bonobos are polygamous
  - Mammals: when males of a species are much larger than females (gorillas, bison), polygyny (many wives) is common
  - Mammals: when the females are larger than males, polyandry (many husbands) is more likely
  - Mammals: only 3% of mammalian species are socially monogamous (15% of primate species)
  - Birds: 90% of bird species are socially monogamous
  - Insects: polyandry (many husbands) widespread
Polyandry

- Polyandry among humans
  - Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan
  - India (Zanskar, Ladakh, Toda of South India, Nairs of Kerala, the Nymba and Pahari of North India)
  - Sri Lanka
  - China (the Mosuo of Yunnan), Mongolia
  - Maasai of Kenya and Tanzania
  - Guanches of the Canary Islands
  - Surui of northwestern Brazil
Polyandry

- Polyandry among humans
  - Urukagina of Lagash (ca. 2300 BC) bans polyandry condemning the woman taking multiple husbands to public stoning.
The Male Principle

• It is obvious who your mother is
• For a long time it may not have obvious at all who one’s father was.
• One of the most important discoveries of all times: sex and pregnancy are related.
• Before that discovery, a woman knew which were her children, but a man didn't. Therefore it made sense that society was matriarchal.
• After that discovery, the man had a way to know which were his children: keep the woman from having sex with anyone else.
Women in History

Cradles of Civilization

Egypt 3100 BC to 394 CE
Sumer 3400 BC to 75 CE
Indus 2800 BC to 1500 BC
China 1500 BC to Present
Mesopotamia/Egypt

- Organized religion began as matriarchal religion
- Adoption of a sedentary lifestyle because of agriculture may have fundamentally reoriented society towards patriarchal organization
- The rise of city-states made war more important than fertility
- Separation of public life and private life
  - Administrative and military organization by men
  - Domestic and agricultural organization by women
- Urbanization dramatically precipitated gender inequality
Women in Mesopotamia
Women in Mesopotamia

- **Mother goddess:** yearly renewal of life, both mother and bride
  - The goddess Nammu, who had no beginning in time, created the world and all living creatures
  - Ninhursaga, goddess of birth (Kesh)

- **Male triad/divine aristocracy (2500 BC)**
  - Enlil, dwelling in Nippur, becomes the greatest of the gods, and the god who punishes people
  - Anu: god of the sky, head of pantheon
  - Enki/Ea: god of irrigation waters (Eridu)

- **Male divine tyranny (2000 BC)**
  - Marduk, god of Babylon, replacing Enlil
Women in Mesopotamia

- Mother goddess
  - The young male god dies annually and has to be rescued by the old mother goddess every year
    - Sumeria: Inanna and Dumuzi
    - Later: Descent of Ishtar to the underworld to “resurrect” Tammuz
      - Inanna/Ishtar = source of regeneration
      - Tammuz/Dumuzi (husband of Ishtar) = agent of the regeneration
  - This event brings about the revival of life in nature (and, later, in humankind)
Women in Mesopotamia

- Sumeria (3500-2000 BC)
  - Women were free to go out to the marketplaces, buy and sell, attend to legal matters for their absent men, own their own property, borrow and lend, and engage in business for themselves
  - Priestesses and princesses could read and write
  - Several city-states had a goddess as the chief deity

The Burney Relief of an unknown female deity (1800 BC - British Museum)
Women in Mesopotamia

• Temple of the goddess Bau: Lagash, 2350 B.C.
  – The temple was run by chief priestess Shagshag
  – 1000 persons employed year round
  – Her domestic staff consisted of:
    • 150 slave women: spinners, woolworkers, brewers, millers, and kitchen workers
    • One female singer, several musicians
    • 6 women who ground grain for feeding pigs
    • 15 cooks
    • 27 other slaves doing menial work
    • Brewery: 40 men and 6 females
    • One wet nurse, one nursemaid
    • One hairdresser
Women in Mesopotamia

- **Enheduanna (2300 BC)**
  - Daughter of king Sargon of Akkad
  - High priestess of the Moon-God temple of Ur
  - First known female poet in history

"I, Enheduanna, the highest priestess. I carried the ritual basket, I chanted your praise. Now I have been cast out to the place of lepers. Day comes and the brightness is hidden around me. Shadows cover the light, drape it in sandstorms. My beautiful mouth knows only confusion. Even my sex is dust."
Women in Mesopotamia

- Laws in the Hammurabi Code (Babylonia, 18th c BC)
  - "If a married lady who is dwelling in a man's house sets her face to go out of doors and persists in behaving herself foolishly wasting her house and belittling her husband, they shall convict her." (Law #141)
  - "If a husband neglects his wife, she shall take her dowry and go back to her father's house." (#142)
  - Dowry
Women in Mesopotamia

• Sammuramat (9th c BC)
  – Assyrian queen
  – Sammuramat accompanied her husband into battle, greatly expanded Babylonia's control over neighboring territories, irrigated the flatlands between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, and modernized the capital Babylon (including the famous gardens)
Women in Egypt

Image of the Great Sphinx and a pyramid in the background.
Women in Egypt

• Mother goddess (pre-dynastic)
  – Oldest deities: Horus is associated with the king, Hathor with the queen
  – Hathor virgin mother of all gods (notably of Re/Ra)
  – A cow bearing the sun disk between her horns
  – All subsequent goddesses (e.g., Isis) were aspects of Hathor
  – Queens and noblewomen wore a menit when officiating rites for Hathor (menit necklace is prominent in Egyptian art)
Women in Egypt

- Isis
  - First mentioned in the 5th dynasty (2494-2345 BC)
  - Sister and wife of Osiris
  - Isis taught Osiris the secrets of agriculture
  - Horus becomes the son of Osiris and Isis
  - Isis resurrected Osiris via Horus
  - Cult of Isis spread throughout the Hellenistic and Roman world (sanctuaries in Roma and Pompei)
Women in Egypt

- Maat
  - Goddess that personifies cosmic harmony and a model for human behavior
  - Justice personified by goddess Maat
  - Chief justice was the high priest of Maat
  - All judges were also priests of Maat
Women in Egypt

• Nuut
  – Late Egyptian age (Graeco-Roman)
  – Mother of Osiris and Isis
  – Swallows the stars and gives birth to the sun
Women in Egypt

• Sexual equality
  – The throne descended through the female line
  – Most queens were sisters of the king
  – Immortality for the queen
  – Female priests
  – Women could own property
  – No dowry
  – Unless a will stated otherwise, estates were divided equally among all of their children, both sons and daughters
Women in Egypt

• Sexual equality
  – The Egyptians viewed their universe as a complete duality of male and female
  – Female deity Maat permeates the universe and provides cosmic harmony
  – Queens portrayed executing prisoners or firing arrows at enemies
  – Female graves containing weapons are found throughout the three millennia of Egyptian history
  – Financial independence
Women in Egypt

• Women’s rights
  – Inherited their parents’s fortune even after marriage
  – Share equally with their husband any wealth acquired within their marriage
  – Conduct business on their own
  – Own and sell property
  – Represent themselves in court
  – Leave their wealth to whomever they wish
  – Adopt children
  – Keep their own name after their marriage
  – Work at jobs other than being a housewife
  – Seek any employment they are qualified for
Women in Egypt

- Musicians and dancers
Women in Egypt

- Female pharaohs
  - Neithikret (c.2148-44 BC), first female ruler of Egypt
  - Sobeknefru (c.1787-1783 BC), second female ruler
Women in Egypt

- Hatshepsut
  - Queen of Egypt, 15th c. B.C.
  - Daughter of the god Amon-Re
  - Peaceful reign promoting trade and the arts
  - Her temple at Deir el-Bahri (west of Thebes)

- Nefertiti
  - Queen of Egypt, 14th c. B.C.
  - Wife of Akhenaton, who worshiped a new religion honoring only one god, Aten
  - Later rejected this religion, backing her half-brother who re-established the sun-god Amon
  - Her beauty was immortalized in many sculptures
Women in Persia

• Mazdaism (Zoroastrianism)
  – Angel hierarchy has feminine spirits
  – Three of the seven Amesha Spentas ("Holy Immortals") who stand next to Ahura Mazda are female
    • Armaiti (devotion, daughter of Mazda, mother of all humankind)
    • Ameretat (immortality)
    • Haurvatat (perfection, life after death)
Between Persia and Greece
Women in Syria

- Queen Shibtu of Mari (18th c BC), wife of Zimri-Lim
- Goddess before 1,400 BC:
  - The Northwestern Ishtar:
    - Hittites (1500 BC): El and his wife Ashera
    - Canaanites (1400 BC - 800 BC): Baal and his wife Anat
    - Jews (800 BC): Yahweh and his wife Asherah

"Jahweh and his asherah" (from Kuntillet, Sinai, 800 BC)
Women in Phoenicia

- Trinity (1,200 BC)
  - The father El/Baal, creator of the universe
  - The son Baal/Melqart, responsible for the annual cycle of vegetation
  - The heavenly **mother** Astarte/Ashera/Baalat, protector of the homes
Women in Judaism

• Jews (800 BC): Yahweh and his wife Asherah
• Jeremiah (44:15-19, 7:17-18) denounces the people who worship "the Queen of Heaven"
• King Josiah (600 BC) destroys the statue of Asherah in the temple and expels the sacred prostitutes from the temple (Chronicles 34:3-7)
• Genesis: God creates Eve from a rib of Adam
• Genesis: human race falls because of Eve
• Almost all prophets are male (48) except
  – Miriam (Exodus 15:20)
  – Deborah (Judges 4 & 5, 12th c BC)
  – Huldah (2 Kings 22:14; 2 Chronicles 34:22)
  – Noadiah (Nehemiah 6:14)
  – Sarah (not a prophet but wife of Abraham)
  – Hagar (16th BC), the Egyptian handmaid of Sarah, wife of Abraham
Women in Judaism

• Jews (800 BC):
  – Jezebel, Phoenician wife of king Ahab, worships the Canaanite god Baal ("a wicked, shameless woman")
Women in Judaism

• The commandments are only for men (e.g. “Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife”) as women are mere property (“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, nor your neighbour's wife, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's”)

Oldest papyrus fragment of Ten Commandments (2nd c BC)
Women in Judaism

- Polygyny (many wives) tolerated
  - Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines (1 Kings 11:3)
  - David had many wives and concubines (2 Samuel 5:13)
- Nowhere does the Old Testament mandate monogamy
- Palestine still polygamous in Roman times
Women in Judaism

• Poetry
  – “The Song of Deborah” is the earliest extant example of Hebrew poetry (and one of the oldest passages of the Old Testament)
Women in Judaism

• Virginity
  – A recurring theme throughout the Old Testament mainly in foreign translations
    • bethulah, a woman still living in her father's house (often translated as "a virgin")
    • `almah, an unmarried young woman (often translated as "a virgin")
  – The Greek ideal of virginity as possessing a high religious value is foreign to true Jewish thought
Women in Judaism

• Virginity
  – Deuteronomy 22:21 (6th-5th c BC) seems to prescribe chastity before marriage
    • “If the woman that was married as a virgin was not found to be one she was to be stoned to death at her father's door” (paraphrase)
Women in Crete

- A matriarchal religion: the gods were all female
- Monotheism?
- No fortification, no depiction of warriors
- Palace society
  - Emphasis not on tombs, temples or forts, but on comfort and luxury

Women of Crete

The goddess
Women in Phrygia (Anatolia)

- Cybele (the Earth Mother, related to the Greek Gaia and the Minoan Rhea)
Legendary Queens

• Old Testament: Queen of Sheba
  – Ethiopia: Makeda, wife of Solomon, mother of Menelik I, first emperor of Ethiopia
  – Yemen: Bilqis

• Plato’s Timaeus and Critias
  – Antinea, queen of Atlantis, matriarchal ruler
Women in India
Women in India

- Pre-Aryan India (2500 BC)
  - Figurines of the Indus Valley
  - **Mother-goddess** worship predating the Aryan migration and the Vedic religion
  - Pre-Aryan Indus valley culture worshipped primarily female fertility goddesses
  - Aryans (nomadic and warriors) focused on **male sky deities**
  - South India (mostly non-Aryan) played an important role in the development of **goddess** worship
Women in India

• Rig Veda (Aryan India, 1,500 BC)
  – None of the goddesses comparable to even second-tier male gods, but some may be the original elements of Devi worship
    • Prthivi the earth (mother figure related to the male god Dyaus)
    • Usas the dawn (mother figure who rouses life and sets things in motion)
    • Aditi mother of the gods (abstract goddess, mentioned nearly eighty times in the Rig-Veda at no time as a consort to any of the gods)
    • Vac the speech (abstract goddess, she enables one to hear, see, grasp and then express in words the true nature of things)
Women in India

- Rig Veda (Aryan India, 1,500 BC)
  - "The mind of woman cannot be disciplined. She has very little intelligence" (Rig Veda 8:33:17)
Women in India

• Mentioned, tolerated and even prescribed by the Vedas:
  – Child Marriage
  – Dowry
  – Bride-Burning (e.g., if the dowry is insufficient, about 5,000 yearly in the 1990s)
  – No Property
  – Sati/ Widow-Burning (upon the death of the husband)
  – No divorce
  – No re-marriage
Women in India

• Vedic India
  – Between the Vedas and the Puranas (5th c AD) little literary material relating to goddess worship
    • a Buddhist monument at Sanchi (1st BC)
    • a temple to the goddess Kanya Kumari at the southern tip of India (1st c AD)
Women in India

• Manusmrti (100 BC)
  – "Men must make their women dependent day and night, and keep under their own control those who are attached to sensory objects. Her father guards her in childhood, her husband guards her in youth, and her sons guard her in old age. A woman is not fit for independence." -- 9:2-4
  – "A thirty-year-old man should marry a twelve-year-old girl who charms his heart, and a man of twenty-four an eight-year-old girl” -- 9:94
  – "A virtuous wife should constantly serve her husband like a god, even if he behaves badly, freely indulges his lust, and is devoid of any good qualities" -- 5:147-164
Women in India

- Visnusmrta (8th c AD but based on preexisting text)
  - "Now the duties of a woman:
    - To live in harmony with her husband
    - To show reverence to her mother-in-law, father-in-law, to elders, to divinities, and to guests
    - ...
    - To remain subject, in her infancy, to her father; in her youth, to her husband; and in her old age, to her sons.
    - After the death of her husband, to preserve her chastity, or to ascend the pile (funeral pyre) after him” -- Visnusmrta 25:1-17.
Women in India

• Vedic India
  – Devi
    • Shiva’s wife
    • Shiva and Devi are complementary aspects of Brahman
    • Good manifestations: Uma as ‘light’; Parvati ‘the mountaineer’; and Jaganmata ‘the mother of the world’.
    • Evil manifestations: Durga, Kali, Chandi, Bhairavi
    • First appearance as Durga, a warrior
Women in India

• Vedic India
  – Durga
    • A manifestation of the goddess Devi or Shakti
    • She was created by Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva, and embodies their collective energy (shakti).
    • They created her to slay the buffalo-demon Mahisasura, whom they were unable to overcome.
Women in India

- Devi
  - Durga killing the bull, Mahamallapuram, 7th c
  - Kali, 12th c (Delhi Museum)
  - Parvati, 10th c (Metropolitan Museum)
  - Mother Goddess Chennai, 10th c
Women in India

- Polygamy not banned by “hinduism” (Vedas, Manusmrti) but rarely practiced throughout history
- Polyandry (many husbands) in the “Mahabharata” (the Pandavas are married to one common wife, Draupadi)

Draupadi with her five husbands (the Pandava princes)
Women in India

- Women in literature
  - Banabhatta/ Bana (North India, 59#): "Kadambari" (6##)
  - Subandhu (North India, 6##): "Vasavadatta" (6##)
  - Andal (South India, 8##): “Nachiar Tirumozhi”
Women in China
Women in China

- **Nvwa**
  - Nvwa is the ancestor of mankind
  - She married her brother, emperor Fuxi, and they made many human children
- **Guanshiyin/ Guanyin Pusa**
  - Guanyin is the only buddha who is worshipped in households
  - “If we Chinese pray, generally we only pray to Guanyin Pusa, who is considered our goddess of mercy, in charge of our real happiness”
- **Xiwanmu/ Queen Mother of the West**
  - First mass religious movement (Han dynasty)
Women in China

• Confucian revolution (5th BC)
  – Confucian teachings have enshrined in people’s heart for more than two thousand years that women are inferior to men, and women should be subservient to men
  – Concubines common among rich men
  – Emperors have many consorts, frequently protagonists of palace intrigue
  – The emperor was attended by an army of wives and concubines with a tightly defined rotation of duty
  – Foot-binding
Women in China

• Politics
  – Empress Lu (195-180 BC), second emperor of the Han dynasty (wife of the first one)
  – Empress Wang/ Xiaoping (8 BC), deposed by her father Wang Mang
  – Empress dowager Liang Na (144-150)
  – Empress Wu Zetian (reigned 655-705)
  – Yang Kuei-fei (born 719), concubine of emperor Hsuan-tsung, the most famous beauty in Chinese history
Women in China

- Arts
  - Poetess Yu Xuanji/Yu Hsuan-chi (born 844)
Women in Meso-America
Women in Meso-America

- Matriarchate of Xochitecatl (1000-400 BC)?
Women in Meso-America

- Matriarchate of Teotihuacan (150 BC)?
Women in Meso-America

- Fewer and fewer female deities after 500 AD
Women in Meso-America

- Very few female representations in Maya cities (100-900 AD)
- When hieroglyphic texts mention women, it is usually in the context of being either someone's mother or someone's wife

Oldest known female stela (Naachtun, 5th c AD)
Everywhere

• Witchcraft
  – Witches exist in all popular traditions (Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas)
    • Egypt and Babylonia: witches (both white and black magic)
    • Vedic India: witches (yogini) performing black magic (abhichara)
    • Judaism: witches condemned in the Old Testament (Deuteronomy 18:11-12; Exodus 22:18)
      – Women were traditionally the repository of white magic (folk medicine)
      – Fear of women’s power to do also black magic
Women in Greece
Women in Greece

• Gaia the Mother Earth, an early mother goddess who was worshipped at Delphi from prehistoric times
Women in Greece

• Greek goddesses correspond to the symbolism (lions, snakes, wild animals, birds, stars) of Crete’s goddess
  – Athena
  – Artemis
  – Aphrodite
  – Demeter
• Greek male gods do not correspond to the symbolism of Crete’s goddess
• The Greek pantheon may be a synthesis of Crete’s matriarchal religion and of the Indo-European patriarchal religion
Women in Greece

• Goddesses
  – Aspects of womanhood
    • Hera, Zeus’ wife: wife and mother
    • Aphrodite, goddess of love: lover
    • Artemis, daughter of the god Zeus and Leto and the twin sister of the god Apollo: virgin
  – Demeter, daughter of the Titans Cronus and Rhea
  – Persephone, daughter of Zeus, father of the gods, and of Demeter, abducted by Hades
  – Athena, Zeus’ favorite child
What the Greeks knew

• Aphrodite
  – Semitic goddesses of war and love: Inanna, Ishtar/Astarte
  – Homer and Hesiod discard the “war” component
• Hesiod:
  – Aphrodite born in Cyprus out of the testicles of Uranus (castrated by his son Cronus, urged in turn by his mother Gaea)(Uranus’ castration story comes from the Enuma Elish)
  – Older than the other Olympians because
  – She has the power to deceive Zeus in person
  – Eros (desire) and Himeros (yearning) are her assistants
What the Greeks knew

- Aphrodite
  - Homer and Hesiod discard the “war” component
  - Homer:
    - Aphrodite is Zeus’ daughter (from Dione)
    - She causes the war by helping Paris (son of Priam, king of Troy) to seduce Helen (queen of Mycenean Spart) and abduct her to Troy
    - She makes sure that the war is not ended by the duel between Paris and Menelaus by spiriting Paris away
    - Aphrodite commits adultery with the war-god Ares (and her husband Hephaestus is ridiculed by the gods)
    - Aphrodite fails to rescue her son Aeneas (she is no longer a war goddess)
What the Greeks knew

- Aphrodite
  - Homeric Hymn to Aphrodite (7th c BC)
    - Aphrodite drives gods to mate with mortals
    - Aphrodite herself has sex with a young mortal, Anchises, and their son Aeneas guides the survivors of the Trojan War to Italy
    - Inanna and her mortal lover Dumuzi, Ishtar and her mortal lover Tammuz
    - Wolves, lions, bears and leopards follow her (like Cybele in Phrygia, the goddess of the wild beasts)
  - Popular myth
    - Aphrodite has sex with a young mortal, Adonis
What the Greeks knew

- Pandora
  - The first woman: before Pandora human beings are exclusively male
  - Pandora is sent by Zeus as punishment in retaliation for Prometheus’ theft of fire (“the mind of a bitch and a thieving nature”)
  - Pandora opens the mysterious jar that Zeus has given her, and its content (suffering) scatters all over the human world and still plagues men
What the Greeks knew

• Eros
  – Eros is a threat to society
    • Aphrodite: destructive power of sex (she causes the carnage of the Trojan war)
    • Pandora: symbol of female evil
    • Circe: symbol of how woman can enslave even the greatest of men
    • Medea: symbol of female power (protofeminist speech about the condition of women)
    • Diotima: desexualizes sex (origin of “Platonic love”)

What the Greeks knew

• Eros
  – Hesiod’s Eros is a male god with no parents (like Gaea/Earth and Tartarus/Underworld, all originated by the primordial Chaos)
  – Eros induces Gaea to generate her own husband Uranus/Sky, and that begins biological sex, with a female and a male joining to give birth to other gods
  – After Aphrodite is born out of Uranus’ tentacles, Eros becomes a mere assistant to Aphrodite
  – Homer’s eros is not a god but simply a common noun meaning sexual desire)
What the Greeks knew

- Homosexuality
  - Not mentioned by either Homer (Achilles and Patroclus are comrades, not lovers) or Hesiod
  - Prevalent in lyric poems of the 7th-6th c BC
  - Aeschylus and Plato treat Achilles as gay
  - Common in the age of Sparta and Athens but only as pederasty
  - Pythagoras condemns it
  - Aristotle has an unsympathetic view of it (“Ethics”)
  - Plato condemns it in the “Laws”
  - Aristophanes condemns it
What the Greeks knew

• Prostitution
  – Pornai (ordinary prostitutes)
  – Hetairai/hetaerae (the Greek equivalent of geishas, cultured and sometimes rich companion)
    • Aspasia (5th c. BC) is the mistress of Pericles and hangs out with Phidias and Socrates - most famous woman of ancient Greece
    • Lais of Corinth (5th c BC) served distinguished men and charged exorbitant fees
  – Only hetaerae are known by name (respectable women are known as the daughter/wife/mother of a man)
What the Greeks knew

- Prostitution
  - Corinth’s sacred prostitutes (women offered as sacrifice by families and individuals to the goddess Aphrodite)
  - Pederasty widely debated but prostitution rarely mentioned in classical Athens (like heterosexuality in general)
  - Hetairai appear in two Aristophanes plays (“Assemblywomen”, 392 BC; “Wealth”)
  - 390 BC - 320 BC: Several plays bear the name of a hetaera
  - Epicrates of Ambracia’s “Antilais” (4th c BC) attacks and mocks Lais
What the Greeks knew

• Sex in pottery
  – Relatively few: 150 out of more than tens of thousands of extant vases (less than 1% of all pottery)
  – 575-450 BC: Erotic and explicitly sexual scenes are common, but figures are stylized (not realistic), and portrayals of sex are often grotesque and/or obscene
  – 550 BC: Height of popularity of homoerotic scenes (mostly between adults, but the age of the erastes keeps declining)
  – 525 BC: The red-figure method replaces the black-figure method, portrayals of sex become more refined
What the Greeks knew

- Sex in pottery
  - Customers of the erotic vases: Etruria (where most of them were found) and the synposion (private drinking party of the aristocratic elite, the same place where erotic poetry is sung)
  - All women depicted on vases are either slaves or prostitutes: the customer does not buy these vases for his wife but for his synposion
  - Vases are made mostly by slaves (just like many of the women they depict) and they are made at the Ceramicus (which is also Athens’ prostitution district)
What the Greeks knew

• Sex in pottery
  – Athenian democracy (490-338 BC)
  – 500 BC: In homoerotic scenes the erastes is often a teenager
  – 470 BC: Peak of love scenes with hetaeras
  – 450 BC and later: the Etrurian market has collapsed, erotic scenes are rare, respectable housewives in domestic settings become more common and figures are realistic
  – The peak of Athenian democracy is an age of sexual restraint and of family values
What the Greeks knew

• Sex in pottery

Kylix by the Nikosthenes Painter (500 BC)

Kylix by the Pedieus Painter (500 BC) (Louvre)
Middle-aged slave women used by young men
Women in Greece

- Cult of Dionysus: Female devotees (mainades/maenads) worship him in frenzied savagery, tearing children and animals limb from limb.
Women in Greece

• Virginity
  – Virgo: the goddesses who were immune to the temptations of Dionysus
    • Artemis, virgin goddess of the moon and the hunt
    • Hestia, virgin goddess of the hearth
    • Athena, virgin goddess of wisdom
Women in Greece

• Origin of the cult of virginity
  – Virginity is the most unnatural state
    • Symbol of human control of nature
    • Symbol of human emancipation from the animal kingdom
    • Symbol of sacrifice
  – Athens (6th c) enacts a law that authorizes fathers to sell their daughters into slavery if they lost their virginity before marriage
Women in Greece

• Mythical women
  – Thetis, archaic sea-goddess
  – Pandora, first woman on Earth, created by the god Hephaestus at the request of the god Zeus to punish humans
  – Aphrodite (at different times) was the mother of Eros, Harmonia and Hermaphroditos... of all possible forms of love. The Greeks did not take sides. Aphrodite was both the goddess of promiscuous love and the goddess of pure love: a civil war between two conceptions of love that was eventually won by the Christians, the advocates of the latter.
Women in Greece

• Muses/Mousai: Kalliope, epic poetry; Kleio, history; Ourania, astronomy; Thaleia, comedy; Melpomene, tragedy; Polyhymnia, religious hymns; Erato, erotic poetry; Euterpe, music; Terpsikhore, choral song and dance.

• The muses were daughters of Mnemosyne, goddess of memory

• Harmonia: goddess of harmony and concord
Women in Greece

• The women of Homer:
  – Helen (object of desire and symbol of power)
  – Penelope (faithful wife who waits for Ulysses)
  – Calypso (femme fatale who seduces Ulysses)
  – Nausicaa (Platonic love)
  – Circe (witch)
  – Thetis (mother of Achilles who saves Zeus from coup)
  – Andromache (the perfect wife)
  – Erinyes/ The Furies: deities of revenge (all women)
Women in Greece

• Women in literature have more power than women in real life
  – Half of all extant 5th century plays have powerful women in leading roles
    • Clytemnestra, Antigone, Iphigenia, Hecuba, Andromache, Medea, Alcestis, Elektra, Lysistrata
    • Aristophanes (450 BC): “Lysistrata” (411 BC) the women force the men to make peace by refusing them sex
• Remnants of a matriarchal society?
Women in Greece

• Eros
  – The Greeks saw eros as a threat to society
  – Aphrodite: destructive power of sex
  – Pandora: symbol of female evil
  – Circe: symbol of how woman can enslave even the greatest of men
  – Medea: symbol of female power (protofeminist speech about the condition of women)
  – Diotima: desexualizes sex (origin of “Platonic love”)
  – Romantic love is pervasive in literature, but seldom as the reason for a marriage
Women in Greece

Sappho (7th BC): first poetess of Europe, a lesbian

Come back to me, Gongyla, here tonight,
You, my rose, with your Lydian lyre.
There hovers forever around you delight:
A beauty desired.
Women in Greece

• Throughout Greece
  – Women are excluded from the Olympic games, but they compete every four years in their own games of Hera
  – Monogamy
Women in Greece

- Athens:
  - Women cannot own or purchase
  - No rights outside the household
  - Every woman has a "kyrios" (guardian): nearest male relative or husband
  - Land of the father divided among sons only (in case of no sons, the nearest male relative as the guardian of the daughters)
  - Typical marriage: 12/15 years old bride and 30+ years old bridegroom
  - Dowry (the woman “buys” a husband)
  - No wedding ceremony
Women in Greece

• Athens (5th c BC)
  – Only prostitutes, slaves and concubines are allowed to leave the house alone
  – Women can attend only special religious functions for women
  – Women cannot socialize with men
  – Women receive no education
  – Death penalty for adultery by a woman but not by a man (unless it is with a married woman)
Women in Greece

• Athens (5th c BC)
  – Stereotype: women have strong emotions and weak minds, thus they need to be protected from themselves and men need to be protected from them
  – Wives are assumed and expected to be dumb: hetaerae (call girls and courtesans) are providing the (intellectual, social, sexual) entertainment
  – "Teaching a woman to read and write? What a terrible thing to do! Like feeding a vile snake on more poison" (Menander)
  – Men can also use prostitutes, concubines and female slaves
Women in Greece

- Athens (5th c BC)
  - The priestess of Athena is Athens’ most important religious dignitary
  - Pythia, priestess of Delphi, is the most influential religious figure (a virgin from a poor family)
  - Aspasia (450 BC) moves from Miletus to Athens, opens a school of philosophy, starts a “salon” at Pericles’ house, and promotes the education of women
Women in Greece

• Sparta: Equality
  – Spartan women were taught reading and writing, and fighting (were expected to be able to protect themselves)
  – They could own and control their own property
  – Not expected to take care of the house or the children
  – They ran naked in the presence of their male counterparts at athletic events
Women in Greece

*Kouros* (male) and *Kore* (*female*) statues

- 590 BC (National Museum, Athens)
- 530 BC (Acropolis Museum, Athens)

Alexandros: "Aphrodite of Milo/ Venus of Milo" (150 BC)
(Louvre Museum, Paris)
Women in Rome
Women in Greece

• Women in Greek tragedy:
  – Clytemnestra
  – Cassandra
  – Antigone
  – Medea
  – Lysistrata
  – Captive Woman's Lament

• Chariton (1st c AD): novel "Chaereas and Callirhoe" (3# AD)

• Longus (1## AD): novel "Daphnis and Chloe" (1## AD)

• Heliodorus of Emesa (2##): novel "Aithiopica/ Theagenes and Charicleia" (2##)
Women in Rome

• Goddesses
  – Greek pantheon (Juno = Hera, Minerva = Athena, Venus = Aphrodite,…)
  – Vesta (non-Greek) symbolizes the fire of Rome (her temple is the only one to be round)
Women in Rome

- Monogamy
- Roman Republic: women have no political rights, just like in Athens
- Hortensia, 42BC: leads a revolt by women against tax laws
- Slaves are expected to take care of household chores and raising children
- Empire: women's literacy is relatively common
- Political intrigues by women close to the emperors
- Augustan reforms to restore morality
Women in Rome

• Roman Republic
  – Women are not allowed to hold any office
  – Women are usually known only by their clan's name (Cornelia, Julia, Claudia...)
  – All women are under male custody
  – Marriage is a simple agreement (no love)
  – Age of consent is 12 (14 for men)
  – The woman can retain her belongings
  – A woman can divorce
  – The wife of a citizen rarely works: she manages the slaves
Women in Rome

- Roman Republic
  - A paterfamilias is any man, married or unmarried, with or without children, who does not owe obedience to a paterfamilias of his own (ie., a father, grandfather, etc.)
  - A mater familias is any married or widowed woman (with or without children)
  - At marriage, a woman in the Republic goes from the authority of her father, or his paterfamilias, to the authority of her husband, or his paterfamilias
  - But a father has more rights than a husband over a woman
  - In practice, due to continuous warfare, women enjoy greater prominence
Women in Rome

• Roman Republic
  – Women virtually absent from religious life
  – Women forbidden to participate in sacrificial rituals
  – Vestal Virgins: strictly celibate priestesses of goddess Vesta for 30 years
  – Female slaves were at the mercy of masters
  – It was a very serious crime for a woman to have a sexual relationship with a slave, even if he was her own
Women in Rome

- Roman Republic
  - Lex Iulia de pudicitia et coercendis adulteriis ("The Julian Law of chastity and repressing adultery", 18BC): marriage becomes an institution protected by the state
  - Both the father and the husband can kill an adulterous woman
Women in Rome

• Livia
  – Wife of Augustus and mother of Tiberius (not Augustus’ son)
• Julia
  – Daughter of Augustus (his only child)
  – First married at 14
  – Wife of wealthy Agrippa (second marriage) and then of Tiberius (Augustus’ stepson)
  – Many affairs
  – Banished by Augustus to an island
Women in Rome

• Agrippina
  – Wealthy great-granddaughter of Augustus
  – Niece and wife of Claudius and mother of Nero (not Claudius’ son)
  – Killed by Nero after she helped him become emperor

• Julia Domna
  – Daughter of a high priest of the temple of Baal in Syria
  – Wife of emperor Septimius Severus
  – Mother of Lucius Septimius Bassianus (Caracalla)
  – Ruled the empire while her husband was at war
  – Created a literary salon and patronized the arts
  – Introduced Eastern elements into Roman life
Women in Rome

• Empress Faustina (2nd c AD)
  – Deified

Empress Faustina the elder (Rome, 160AD) (Getty Villa)
Women in Rome

- Julia Maesa
  - De facto ruler of the Roman Empire during the reign of her grandson Elagabalus (219 AD)

- Zenobia
  - Ruled over Roman Syria (266-74) and conquered Anatolia from the Persians and Egypt from Rome itself before being defeated by Rome

- Blandina
  - Slave girl tortured to death for being a Christian (177 AD)
Women in Rome

• Cleopatra
  – Queen of Egypt under Roman occupation (69-30 BC)
  – Highly educated
  – Julius Caesar’s lover (one child)
  – Mark Anthony’s lover (three children)
Women in Rome

• Women in literature
  – Gaius Petronius (27 AD): "Satyricon Liber" (67 AD) the episode “Ephesus’ widow”
  – Lyric poetry is mostly un-viril: the male poet is subjected to the power of the woman (Cornelius Gallus/ Lycoris, Catullus/Clodia, Propertius/Cynthia, Tibullus/Delia)
  – Poetess: Sulpicia
Women in Rome

- Women in art

  Roman Portraits: Faiyum portrait of a noblewoman

  Goddess of Flowers (Museo Archeologico, Napoli)
Women in Rome

• Hypatia (4th c AD, Greek-language Egyptian of the Roman Empire): mathematician, philosopher and astronomer
Women in Byzantium

• Justinian (527 AD)
  – **Age of consent: seven**
  – Incest forbidden
  – Prostitutes, procuresses, actresses, women working in a tavern and women convicted of adultery were permanently barred from marriage to a freeborn man
  – Divorce allowed under several conditions
  – A man could not have a concubine and a wife at the same time
  – Dowry not mandatory but very common
  – Sine manu marriage common: power over the woman is not transferred to the husband
Christian Women

• Gospels: Virgin Mary (a virgin) and Mary Magdalene (a prostitute)
• Christianity: a religion of slaves, both males and females
• Martyrdom for both men and women
• The earliest Roman nobles to adopt Christianity were women (e.g., Constantine’s mother)
• Gospels: no inherent distinction between males and females (unlike Old Testament)
• Monotheism, but Virgin Mary and saints also divine
Christian Women

• Saints
  – Perpetua and Felicita (martyred 203 AD)
  – Apollonia (martyred 249)
  – Agata (martyred 251)
  – Agnese (martyred 258)
  – Cecilia (martyred 3rd c)
  – Lucia (martyred 304)
  – Caterina of Alexandria (martyred 310)
  – Helena, Constantine’s mother (4th c)
  – Monica, Augustine’s mother (4th c)
  – Brigida of Kildare (5th c)
Christian Women

• The Church in Rome banned polygamy in order to conform to the Graeco-Roman culture
  – St Augustine, "Now indeed in our time, and in keeping with Roman custom, it is no longer allowed to take another wife."
Early Medieval Women

• Boethius’ “Consolation of Philosophy” is an imaginary dialogue between himself and philosophy, with philosophy being personified by a woman (the female figure of wisdom)
Early Medieval Women

- Olga of Kiev (945-962)
Early Medieval Women

• Myth
  – Ireland: "The Pursuit of Diarmada and Ghrainne" (11##)
  – Iceland: Brynhild in "Volsunga Saga" (129#)
  – Iceland: unhappily married women of “The People of Laxardal" (125#)
  – Iceland: Hallgerd in “Njal's Saga" (128#)
  – Norway: “Tristram and Isond" (122#)

• Fiction:
  – Eustathios Makrembolites (11##): "Ysmine and Ysminias" (11##)
  – Konstantinos Manasses (11##): "Aristandros and Kallithea" (11##)
  – "Kallimachos and Chrysorrhoe" (13##)
  – Guivenene in "Lancelot do Lac" (121#) and Arthurian cycle
  – Isond in "Prose Tristan" (1230)
  – “The Story of King Florus and of the Fair Jehane" (120#)
  – Jean d'Arras (14##): "The Book of Melusine" (1393)
Women in Arabia
Women in pre-Islamic Arabia

- Matrilineality in pre-Islamic Arabia
  - Amirites of Yemen
  - Nabateans in Northern Arabia
- Allat, Manat, and al-ʿUzza
- Muhammad's first wife: Khadijah, a successful businesswoman
Women in Islam

• Al-Khansa: 6th c Arab poetess, specializing in funeral elegies
• Shahrazad protagonist/narrator of “Thousand and One Nights”
• Allah’s wife and two daughters in Mecca
Women in Islam

- From the Quran:
  - Men are allowed to marry up to four wives and to sleep with their slave maids and keep as many captive women as they like (4:3)
  - Women cannot enter a tribunal (2:282)
- Mohammed married at least 9 women and up to 25
- After a “revelation” from Allah, Mohammed forced Zeinab, his cousin, to divorce her husband Zeid, his adopted son, and then married her
- In 624 Mohammed (then 54) was engaged to the six-year old daughter of Abu Bakr and married her when she was nine
Women in the Islamic world

- Islamic strategy to subdue women
  - Role of women embodied in Islam
  - Make women faithful Muslims
Women in the Islamic world

- Rabia Al Dawiyya (717 AD, pre-sufist)
  - Slave-girl
  - Extinction of the ego in mystical unity with God
  - Trust in God, and acceptance of his will ("rida"), is the only attitude that makes sense
  - Fear of punishment or hope of reward are meaningless
  - "Sidq": sincerity of love (love God not because of Paradise/Hell but only because of sincere love)
  - "I am too busy loving God to find any time to hate Satan"
Women in the Islamic world

• Fatima al-Fihri
  – Founded the first university: University of al-Qarawiyyin or al-Karaouine in Fes, Morocco (859 AD)
Women in the Islamic world

- Walladah Bint Mustakfi (11th c): poetess, daughter of the caliph of Cordoba, Spain
- Asma (11th c), wife of Ali al-Sulayhi, founder of Fatimid rule in Yemen
- Arwa (11th c), queen of Yemen, daughter-in-law of Asma
Women in the Far East
Women in the Far East

• Politics
  – Empress Wu Zetian, China (Tang dynasty)
  – Empress Koten of Japan (749-770)
  – Lady Murasaki Shikibu, Japan (Heian period)
  – Queen Sondok (or Sonduk), Korea (Silla dynasty)
Women in the Far East

• Arts
  – Poetess Li Qingzhao, China (Song dynasty)

• Japanese female writers
  – Murasaki Shikibu, Japan: “Genji Monogatari” (1010)
  – "Kagero Nikki/ Gossamer Years" (Japan, 99#)
  – Izumi Shikibu (Japan, 974): "Poems" (100#)
  – Murasaki Shikibu (Japan, 973): "Genji Monogatari" (100#)
  – Most of the hundreds of monogatari written in the following centuries
    – Lady Sarashina (Japan, 1003): "Sarashina Nikki" (106#)
    – "Hamamatsu Chunagon Monogatari" (Japan, 107#)
    – "Yoru no Nezame/ Tale of Nezame" (Japan, 108#)

• Women in male literature
  – "Ochikubo Monogatari/ Lady Ochikubo" (Japan, 98#)
Women in India

- Mahabharata and the Ramayana (400 BC - 400 AD)
  - Progressive integration of goddesses into the Hindu pantheon
  - The goddesses are mythological not metaphysical figures
  - Mostly wives of the male gods
Women in India

• Puranas (400 AD)
  – Shakti theology (the “Devi Gita” of the “Devi-Bhagavata Purana”)
  – Female mythology mutates into female metaphysics
  – A single great goddess, who includes within her self other forms of the goddess
  – Independent of male gods
  – Subsuming the roles of creator, maintainer and destroyer, normally associated with Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva respectively
  – The feminine power (shakti) as the energy which empowers the deity
  – Mahavidyas goddesses that represent different aspects of Devi
Women in India

- Devi-Mahatmya, chapters 81-93 of the Markendeya Purana (6th c AD)
  - Three stories illustrating the greatness of the goddess
  - Devi is referred to as both the creator and the destroyer
  - Devi interacts with Brahma and empowers Vishnu to slay the demons
  - Devi is formed as a powerful warrior by the combined mental power of Vishnu, Shiva and Brahma to fight a demon
Women in India

• Devi
  – The “Goddess”
  – The prime mover, who commands the male gods to do the work of creation and destruction
  – Durga, slayer of demons
  – Kali, goddess of death
  – Shakti, the female power
  – Lakshmi, the wife of Vishnu
  – Parvati, the wife of Shiva (daughter of the Himalayas)
  – Uma, the mother
  – Violent and erotic: Kali, Tara, Bhairavi, Chinamasta
  – Domestic: Laksmi, Sita, Sarasvati, Tripurasundari
Women in India

- **Tantrism (10th-14th c AD)**
  - Female-centered sex-worship
  - Adoration of the lingam-yoni, sign of the male and female principles in conjunction (the god Shiva and the goddess Kali)
  - Woman possesses more spiritual energy than man
  - Man can achieve unity with the divinity through sexual union with a woman
  - **Goal:** to imitate Shiva, the god in perpetual union with the goddess
Women in the West

• Three ages from the Medieval to Digital times
  – Age of cooperation: the wife and the husband work together out of a home-work unit
  – Age of discrimination: only the husband is allowed to “work” (outside the home) while the wife is restricted to the home
  – Age of imitation: the wife works like the husband outside the home
Women in Medieval Europe

- Medieval dresses
  - Europe, 15th c
  - Italy, 14th c
Women in Medieval Europe

- **Powerful women**
  - Theodora, empress of Byzantium who restored the icons (843)
  - Adelaide, empress of Ottonian empire (962)
  - Zoe, (1045-1055) - empress of Byzantium
  - Eleanor of Aquitaine, queen of England and of France, 1122-1202
  - Anna Comnena, Byzantine historian (12th c)
  - Shagrat al-Durr, sultan of Egypt (13th c)
  - Razia Sultana of Delhi Sultanate, the first Muslim ruler (1236-1240)
Women in Medieval Europe

• Powerful women
  – Dorotea Bocchi takes the chair of medicine at the University of Bologna (1390)
  – Denmark, Sweden, and Norway are united under Queen Margrethe I (1397)
  – Joan of Arc, leader of the French resistance against the British (1412-31)
  – Isabella I of Castilla, queen of Spain (1451-1504)
  – Margaret of Anjou (War of the Roses in England)
  – Jane Shore (concubine of Edward IV)
Women in Medieval Europe

- Early Medieval times
  - Sexual ethics based on procreation, not pleasure
  - Little emphasis on chastity or modesty
  - Brothels run or authorized by the city hall
Women in Medieval Europe

• Changing sexual habits
  – Bisexuality repressed
  – Sexual abstinence the chief distinguishing feature of the clergy
  – Marriage as an indissoluble sacrament of faith
  – Love separate from marriage
  – Marriage defines the place of a woman in society
Women in Medieval Europe

• The image of woman
  – Eve is not a saint
  – Angels are male (in theory sexless)
  – Very few female saints until 13th c
Women in Medieval Europe

- The image of woman
  - Eve as the ultimate sinner, and all women inherit her sin
  - Virgin Mary as the ultimate good, the highest possible state of humanity, as close as possible to divine
  - All women are between Eve and the Virgin Mary
  - Mary Magdalene as the typical Eve on her way to becoming a Virgin Mary
  - Nuns as imitations of the Virgin Mary
Women in Medieval Europe

- Jobs
  - Equal opportunity employment
    - Farming: 50% of chores
    - Textile: 50% of chores
    - Handicraft: 50% of chores
    - Local trade: 50% of chores
  - Only long-distance commerce was mostly male
Women in Medieval Europe

- Jobs
  - Cooperative home-based workplace
    - Farming
    - Weaving, spinning, yarn preparation
    - Etc
  - Production and reproduction are complementary
  - The workplace “is” the home
Women in Medieval Europe

- Literacy
  - Women are as literate as men, perhaps more
  - Germany:
    - Hrotsvitha/Rosvita von Gandersheim (93#)
    - Hildegard of Bingen (1098)
  - France:
    - Heloise (1101, mathematician and physician)
    - Christine de Pisan (1364)
  - Sweden: Bridget’s "Visions" (1373)
  - Holland: Gertrude van der Oosten’s "Het Daghet in den Oosten/ Day Breaketh in the East" (135#)
Women in Medieval Europe

• Literacy
  – Italy: Abella (physician), Bettina d'Andrea (lawyer), Novella d'Andrea (lawyer), Dorotea Bocchi (professor of medicine), Constanza Calenda (eye surgeon), Calrice di Durisio (physician), Jacobina Felicie (physician), Alessandra Giliani (anatomist), Rebecca de Guarna (physician), Maria Incarnata (surgeon), Margarita (physician), Thomasia de Mattio (physician), Mercuriade (surgeon), Trotula di Salerno (physician), …
Women in Medieval Europe

• Convent life
  – Beguines
  – Cistercians, Franciscans, Dominicans spin off religious orders and convents for women only
  – 1350: more than 3,000 nuns in England
  – Nuns more cultivated than other women and even of men
  – The convent is the place where a woman is allowed to be as erudite and intelligent as a man
Women in Medieval Europe

• Love
  – Idealized (Platonic) love
  – Spiritual element
  – Allegorical element
  – Conventions of love discourse and behavior
Women in Medieval Europe

• Amour courtois
  – How love for God turned into love for the woman (similarity with the transition from gospel music to soul music)
  – Love of the Virgin Mary
  – Love-based ethics of the knights
  – San Franciscan love of the world
  – Love as the main force of the world
  – Love as the meaning of life
  – Note: most often love between knight and mistress, but not between husband and wife
Women in Medieval Europe

• Chivalry (12th-14th c)
  – Courtly love: devotion to a lady (mostly adulterous love)
  – Knights embrace poetry and music to romance their lady
  – Heroism and Love
  – Asceticism and Eroticism
  – Tournaments as proof of valor and devotion
Women in Medieval Europe

• Spiritual love and physical love
  – Chrétien de Troyes’ Guinevere
  – Robin and Marion
  – Dante’s Beatrice (female figure of wisdom)
  – Petrarca’s Laura
  – Geoffrey Chaucer's Lady Nature in “The Parliament of Fowls” (female figure of wisdom)
  – Chaucer’s “Wife of Bath” (1400)
  – Many female protagonists of tales, romances, poems
Women in Medieval Europe

• Spiritual love and physical love
  – Boccaccio
  • “Decameron” (1353): dedicated to women for the purpose of entertain them because they are being wrongfully neglected
  • “De Claribus Mulieribus” (1374): a collection of lives of the most famous women from ancient times to Middle Ages (parallel to Petrarch's book on the most illustrious men)
  • Elegia di Madonna Fiammetta
Women in Medieval Europe

- Virginity
  - Most popular woman in the Western world: the Virgin Mary
  - Most respected women in Western history up until the French revolution: the Christian virgin martyrs
  - The reproductive role of women symbolizes slavery, while virginity represents freedom
  - Ancient belief that virgins mediate between the natural and the supernatural
  - The first feminist heroines were virgins
Women in Medieval Europe

- Virginity
  - Spiritual movements led by women: e.g., Caterina da Siena (14th c)
Women in Medieval Europe

- Syphilis (1490s)
  - Sex = sin
Women in Medieval Europe

- **Marriage**
  - Britain in 15th/16th century
    - Girls can marry at 12 and bots at 14 (even without parents’ consent)
    - Love marriages are the exception not the norm
    - Divorce is forbidden
    - Adultery is widespread
    - Very promiscuous age
Women in Medieval Europe

- Witch Hunts
  - While Christianity competed with Pagan religion, priests had to compete with witches in supernatural powers
  - 9th c: Saint Boniface curses the belief in witches as pagan superstition; emperor Charlemagne decrees that the burning of witches is illegal
  - Identification of witchcraft with heresy
  - Mass persecutions encouraged by the Church
Women in Medieval Europe

• Witch Hunts
  – First mass trial of witches: 1397-1406 at Boltinger (Switzerland)
  – 1428: France
  – Papal Bull of 1484 “Summis desiderantes”
  – Heinrich Institoris’ “Malleus Maleficarum” (1486), antifeminine ideology linking witchcraft and women
Women in Medieval Europe

- Prostitution
  - Prostitution viewed as a lesser evil than rape or adultery
  - Prostitution as a bulwark of marriage
  - Venezia/Venice, 1526: 4,900 prostitutes out of 55,000 people
  - Firenze and Venezia: red-light districts (Mercato Vecchio and Rialto)
  - City-controlled brothels: Munich (1433), Strasbourg (1469), Sevilla (1469)
Women in Medieval Europe

- Women in male literature
  - Francois Villon’s "Ballades de Dames du Temps Jadis" (146#)
Women in Medieval Europe

- Women in painting

Cimabue

Painting of the Virgin Mary, Monastery of Jasna Gora, Czestochowa, Poland, Byzantium 6th to 9th c

Duccio
Women in Medieval Europe

- Women in painting

Piero della Francesca

Jan van Eyck
Medieval Japan
Medieval Japan

• Ancient times: Japanese society ordered largely according to matrilineal lines
• 15th c Japan: the samurai ethos, Confucian influence and Zen Buddhism create discrimination towards women
  – Samurai: a male-only profession
  – Confucianism: a woman's duty towards her father, her husband and her son
  – Buddhism: salvation is not possible for women
Women in the Renaissance
Women in the Renaissance

- 16th c

France, 16th c
Women in the Renaissance

• Powerful women
  – Caterina Cornaro, queen of Cyprus (in 1468)
  – Lucrezia Borgia, duchess of Este (in 1501)
  – Isabella d’Este, marchesa of Mantua (in 1490)
  – Margaret of Austria, regent of the Netherlands (in 1507)
  – Louise of Savoy, regent of France (in 1515)
  – Margaret, queen of Navarre (in 1527)
  – Roxelana, wife of Ottoman sultan Suleyman (1531), a Christian Ukrainian slave girl, the first wife of an Ottoman sultan ever
Women in the Renaissance

- Powerful women
  - Caterina de Medici, queen consort of France, 1547-1589
  - Mary, queen of Scotland, 1542-1587
  - Mary Tudor, queen of England, 1553-58 (“Bloody Mary”)
  - Elizabeth I, queen of England, 1558-1603, illegitimate child, virgin and single
  - Peace of Cambrai (1529) between France and Germany is negotiated by Louise of Savoy, mother of Francis I of France, and Margaret of Austria, aunt of German emperor Karl V
Women in the Renaissance

- Powerful women
  - Anne Beaujeu (b 1461)
  - Lucrezia Borgia (b 1480)
  - Isabella d’Este (b 1474)
  - Marguerite de Valois (b 1553)
  - Marguerite d’Angouleme de Navarre (b 1492)
Women in the Renaissance

• Female education
  – The printing press and the adoption of vernacular languages spread literacy among women
  – Women encouraged to read the Bible
Women in the Renaissance

- **Female education**
  - Focus of women’s education: domestic chores
    - Household manager (reading/writing/math)
    - Obedient wife (Bible)
    - Capable mother (needlework, gardening)
    - Faithful Christian (the Islamic strategy)
  - Kitchen chores only for the lower classes
  - Needlework for women of all classes
Women in the Renaissance

• Female education
  – Schools for women (run by nuns or spinsters)
    • Ursuline (founded 1535 by Angela Merici)
    • Boarding schools in England (from 1617) as a secular extension of convent schools
    • Charitable confraternities (Filles de la Charite’, 1633, France; Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge, 1699, England)
  – Disparity in education among various regions due to the influence of different religious organizations
  – Elementary schools for both girls and boys (equal numbers in 1672 in Paris Notre Dame) that reduce gender difference
Women in the Renaissance

• Jobs for uneducated women
  – Women from the countryside and the working class were expected to support themselves both when single and when married
    • Farm chores
    • Female servants (12% of urban population, single largest working group in urban society)
    • Textile industry
    • Mills
  • 80% of country girls in France left their parents’ home by the age of 12
    • Ealing, 1599: 75% of females aged 15 to 19 were living away from their parents as servants
Women in the Renaissance

• Jobs for uneducated women
  – Source of cheap labor for the proto-industrial world
    (80% of girls aged 6-12 working in Norwich in 1570
     compared with only 30% of boys)
  – Single woman
Women in the Renaissance

• Jobs for the uneducated women
  – Gradual exclusion of women from professional life
  – Confinement to the domestic sphere
  – The discovery of the New World emphasizes long-distance commerce, a male activity
  – Perennial warfare favors males
Women in the Renaissance

- Jobs for the uneducated women

Women at work in a metallurgical shop (16th c miniature, France)
Women in the Renaissance

• Morality of the Reformation and the Council of Trento (1563)
  – Sex becomes a crime
  – Prostitutes persecuted
  – The sacrament of marriage as a precondition to procreation
  – Women marry at 22-26 (later than ever in history)
  – Emphasis on female chastity and modesty
Women in the Renaissance

• The birth of femininity
  – The vestiary revolution: differentiation of male and female clothing
  – The cosmetic revolution: white skin, blonde hair, red lips and cheeks, black eyebrows
    • Caterina Sforza’s “Esperimenti” (1509), a manual of cosmetics
  – The behavioral revolution: good manners encoded in Baldassarre Castiglione’s “Il Cortegiano” (1528) and similia
Women in the Renaissance

• The birth of femininity
  – **Beauty no longer a threat to society**, but an attribute
  – **Ugliness, not beauty, associated with vice**
Women in the Renaissance

• The birth of femininity
  – “El Costume delle donne” (Anonymous, 1536)
    • Three long: hair, hands, legs
    • Three short: teeth, ears, breasts
    • Three wide: forehead, chest, lips
    • Three narrow: waist, knees, pelvis
    • Three large: height, arms, thighs
    • Three thin: eyebrows, fingers, lips
    • Three round: neck, arms, breast
    • Three small: mouth, chin, feet
    • Three white: teeth, throat, hands
    • Three red: cheeks, lips, nipples
    • Three black: eyebrows, eyes, xxx
Women in the Renaissance

• Prostitution
  – After the Reformation (1517) and Counter-reformation **criminalization of prostitution**
    • City brothels are closed
    • France, 1560: brothels illegal
    • Spain, 1623: brothels illegal
  – Prostitutes become **independent professionals**
    • Mostly from the countryside
    • By choice
    • Choice of independence from parents
  – Birth of a new kind of high-class whore for respectable and powerful men: **the courtesan**
Women in the Renaissance

- Witch hunts
  - 15th c: Witch hunts follow the geographic patterns of heresies
  - France: religious law (witches burned)
  - England and colonies: criminal law (witches hanged)
  - German-speaking world: death penalty for witches (Caroline Law of 1532)
  - No witch hunts in Italy, Spain, Portugal, Hispanic America
  - The Salem trials of 1692
Women in the Renaissance

• Proto-feminists
  – Modesta di Pozzo di Forzi (Italian noble woman): a lost book about the superiority of women (1593)

• Male feminists:
  – Heinrich Cornelius Agrippa (German magician): "Declamatio de nobilitate et praecellentia foeminei sexus/ Declamation on the Nobility and Preeminence of the Female Sex" (1529)
Women in the Renaissance

- Women in male literature
  - Fernando de Rojas (Spain): “La Celestina” (1499)
  - Fernando de Rojas (Spain): "Tragicomedia de Calisto y Melibea/ La Celestina" (1499)
  - Francisco Delicado (Spain): "Retrato de la Lozana Andaluza" (1528)
  - Pietro Aretino (Italy): “I Ragionamenti” (1534), first pornographic work
  - Jorge de Montemayor (Portugal): "La Diana" (1559)
  - Torquato Tasso (Italy): "Aminta" (1573)
  - Pierre de Ronsard (France): "Sonnets pour Helene" (1578)
  - Thomas Lodge (Britain): "Rosalynde" (1590)
  - Edmund Spenser (Britain): "The Faerie Queene" (1596)
  - Nicholas Breton (Britain): "The Miseries of Mavillia" (1597)
  - Thomas Deloney (Britain): "Thomas of Reading" (1599)
Women in the Renaissance

- Women in male literature
  - William Shakespeare:
    - Juliet (“Romeo and Juliet”, 1595)
    - Ophelia (“Hamlet”)  
    - Lady Macbeth (“Macbeth”)  
    - Desdemona (“Othello”)  
    - Beatrice (“Much Ado About Nothing”)  
    - Cleopatra (“Anthony and Cleopatra”)  
    - "The Merry Wives of Windsor" (1599)  
    - “The Taming of the Shrew”
Women in the Renaissance

- Female writers
  - Marguerite d'Angouleme (France, 1492): "Heptameron" (1559)
  - Vittoria Colonna (Italy, 1490): "Canzoniere" (1544) [p]
  - Anna Bijins (Holland, 1496): "Nieuwe Refereynen" (1567) [p]
  - Teresa de Avila (Spain, 1515): "Castillo de Perfeccion" (1577) [h]
  - Marguerite Briet (France, 1515): "Les Angoysses Douloureuses qui Precedent d'Amours“ (1538)
    - Helisennne marries at 11
  - Giulia Bigolina (Italy, 1518): "Urania" (1555) novel rediscovered in 2002
  - Anne Dudley-Bradstreet (USA, 1612) first published female poet in English (1650)
Women in the Renaissance

- Women in art

Sandro Botticelli: "Allegoria della Primavera" (1478)

Michelangelo Buonarroti: La Pieta (1500)
Female Anatomy

• Traditional view of female anatomy:
  – There is a one-to-one correspondence between male sexual organs and female sexual organs
  – Female genitals are mirror images of male genitals, eg the vagina is an inner penis (basically, there is only one sex, and women are inverted men)
  – Both men and women enjoy sex equally
    • Ovidius (1st c AD): Tiresias (who has been both a man and a woman) testifies to Jupiter that women enjoy sex more than men (Juno blinds him and he becomes the greatest of fortune tellers)
Female Anatomy

- Traditional view of female anatomy:
  - Male and female orgasm are both required for conception
  - Male and female fluids produced during orgasm mix to create a new being
  - Women should have sex in the middle of the menstrual cycle whenever they want to minimize chances of getting pregnant
Female Anatomy

- Renaissance view of female anatomy:
  - Renaldus Columbus "De Re Anatomica" (1559) "discovers" the clitoris, which alters the male-female symmetry (the vagina is no longer the only organ corresponding to the penis)
  - William Harvey (1651): all life originates from an egg
  - Anton van Leuwenhoek (1677): male sperm contains many tiny organisms
  - Sexual reproduction is widespread in nature
Female Anatomy

- Enlightenment’s view of female anatomy:
  - Theodor von Bischoff (1843) and Adam Raciborski (1844): Ovulation occurs spontaneously, i.e. woman is a "spontaneous ovulator"
  - Georg-Ludwig Kobelt (1844): “Die männlichen und weiblichen Wollust-Organe des Menschen und einiger Säugetiere/ The Male and Female Organs of Sexual Arousal in Man and some other Mammals”
Female Anatomy

• Enlightenment’s view of female anatomy:
  – Conception is due to the union of male sperm and female egg
  – Oskar Hertwig (1876): the male sperm penetrates the female egg and the union of their nuclei constitutes fertilization
  – Sexual pleasure induces women to have sex even if it is dangerous to their survival
  – The two sexes are different
Women in Persia

- Safavid 16th c
Women in the 17th Century

• 17th c

Italy, 17th c
Women in the 17th Century

• Powerful women
  – Nur Jahan, chief wife of Mughal emperor Jahangir, India (1611)
  – Christina Wasa, queen of Sweden (1644-54)
  – Meisho, empress of Japan (1630-43)
  – Regents of Russia: Peter’s mother Nathalie Naryshkima and Peter’s half-sister Sophia
Women in the 17th Century

• Proto-feminists
  – Anna Maria van Schurman, linguist: "Dissertatio de ingenii mulieribus ad doctrinam et meliores litteras aptitudine" (1639)
  – Marie de Gournay (France, 1565): "Égalité des Hommes et des Femmes/ The Equality of Men and Women" (1622)

• Male feminists
  – François Poullain de la Barre (French philosopher): "Equality of the Two Sexes" (1673)
Women in the 17th Century

- The Salons, hosted by noble women
  - Marquise de Rambouillet
  - Madame d’Epinay
  - Madame Necker
  - Madame de Chatelet
  - Madame Geoffrin
  - Madame du Deffand
  - Julie de Lespinasse
  - Madame de la Fayette
  - Madame de Scudery
Women in the 17th Century

- Elena Cornaro Piscopia (Italy, 1646), mathematician and the first female to earn a doctoral degree

- Maria Sibylla Merian (Holland, 1647): painter of insects, travels around the world
Women in the 17th century

• Women in operas
  – Jacopo Peri’s Euridice (1600)
  – Claudio Monteverdi’s L’Incoronazione di Poppea (1642)
Women in the 17th century

• Women in paintings

Pieter Rubens: "Debarquement de Marie de Medicis" (1625)
Women in the 17th century

- Female painters
  - Artemisia Gentileschi (1593)
Women in the 17th century

• Female sculptors
  – Luisa Roldán (Spain, 1652)
Women in the 17th Century

- Women in male literature
  - Miguel de Cervantes (Spain): Don Quijote’s Dulcinea (1615)
  - Moliere (France): "Les Precieuses Ridicules" (1659), "L'Ecole des Femmes" (1662), "Les Femmes Savantes" (1672)
  - JeanBaptiste Racine (1639, France): "Athalie" (1691)
Women in the 17th Century

• Female writers
  – Madeleine de Scudery (France, 1607): "Clelie" (1661)
  – Margaret Cavendish (1623): “Blazing World” (1666), first science-fiction book
  – Marie-Madeleine de Lafayette (France, 1634): "La Princesse de Cleves" (1678)
  – Catharina Regina von Greiffenberg (Germany, 1633): "Geistliche Sonnette" (1662) [p]
  – Anna Visscher (Holland, 1583): "De Roemster van den Aemstel/ The Glory of the Aemstel" (1627) [p]
  – Maria de Zayas y Sotomayor (Spain, 1590): "Novelas Amorosas" (1637)
  – Juana Ines de la Cruz (Mexico, 1648): "Los Empeños de una Casa" (1683) [t]
Women in the Industrial Age

- 18th c
Women in the Industrial Age

• Powerful women
  – Anne, Queen of England (1702-14)
  – Tara Bai (1700-13), queen of Maratha (India)
  – Anna and Lizaveta, empresses of Russia
  – Ekaterina II, Empress of Russia (1729-1796)
  – Maria Theresa, Empress of Austria (1740-80)
  – Gosakuramachi, empress of Japan (1762-70) 後桜天皇
Women in the Industrial Age

• Powerful women
  – Madame de Pompadour (lover of French king Louis XV), friend of philosophers
Women in the Industrial Age

- Entertainers
  - La Clairon, Parisian actress
Women in the Industrial Age

• Cosmetics
  – “Parisian ladies are painted like Nureenberg dolls” (Mozart to his wife)
Women in the Industrial Age

• The origin of female segregation
  – Work moves from the farm to the ranch, from the backyard to the factory, from the lower floor to the downtown store
  – The industrialized world of the factory demands full-time wage-earning work away from home
  – “Protective” legislation enacted to keep women from performing “dangerous” jobs
  – Production and reproduction are no longer compatible
  – Separation of household and workplace
  – Separation of home and work
Women in the Industrial Age

• The origin of female segregation
  – Female work becomes a black market of low-wage jobs
  – Women restricted to marginal low-paying jobs
  – Only very poor women work
Women in the Industrial Age

• The French revolution
  – 1789 - Women are the first to march on Versailles (5 October 1789)
  – The power of women: unarmed mediator between the intelligentsia and the commoners, between ideological life and domestic life
  – A male revolution: “Déclaration des droits de l'homme et du citoyen” (1789)
  – Olympe de Gouges’ “Déclaration des droits de la femme et de la citoyenne” (1791)
  – Etta Palm” “Société patriotique de la bienfaisance et des amies de la vérité” (1791)
  – Female clubs outlawed in 1793: “It is not possible for women to exercise political rights”
Women in the Industrial Age

- The French revolution
  - Queen Marie-Antoinette described as a moral monster by the popular pamphlets

Essai Historique sur la Vie de Marie-Antoinette
Women in the 18th Century

- William Alexander: The History of Women From Earliest Antiquity to the Present Time (1782)
  - In Pre-history the human society was ruled by benign, peaceful matriarchy
  - This is a sign of barbaric civilizations
Women in the Industrial Age

- **Journalists**
  - Eliza Haywood’s “Female Spectator” (1744)
  - Madame de Beaumer’s “Journal des Dames” (1762)

- **Essayists**
  - Olympia de Gouges’ “Déclaration des droits de la femme et de la citoyenne” (1791)
  - Mary Wollstonecraft: “A Vindication of Woman” (1792)

- **Painters**
  - Elisabeth Vigee-Lebrun
Women in the Industrial Age

• Learned women
  – Maria Gaetana Agnesi (Univ of Milano)
  – Laura Bassi (Univ of Bologna)
  – Marie-Sophie Germain (rejected by French universities, first woman to win a prize from the Academy of Sciences)
  – Caroline Herschel: the first female astronomer, who also discovers a comet (1786)
Women in the 18th Century

• Female writers
  – Fanny Burney (Britain, 1752): "Evelina" (1778)
  – Ann Radcliffe (Britain, 1764): "Mysteries of Udolpho" (1794)
Women in the 18th Century

• The bias
  – "Men more frequently require to be reminded than informed" (Samuel Johnson): the debated about being informed is only for males.
Women in the 18th Century

• Women in painting

Goya: “La Maja Desnuda” (1800)
Women in the 18th Century

- Women in male literature
  - Samuel Richardson (1689): "Pamela" (1740)
  - Carlo Goldoni (1707): "La Locandiera" (1753) [t]
  - Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712): "La Nouvelle Heloise" (1761)
  - Gotthold Ephraim Lessing (1729, Germany): "Minna Von Barnhelm" (1763)
  - Donatien de Sade (1740): "Justine" (1791)
  - Pierre Laclos (1741): "Les Liaisons Dangereuses" (1782)
  - Anne Stael, George Sand, Eugene Sue
  - Friedrich von Schiller (1759, Germany): "Maria Stuart" (1800)
Women in the 18th century

• Women in operas
  – Alessandro Scarlatti’s Griselda (1721)
  – Giovanni Pergolesi’s La Serva Padrona (1733)
  – Niccolò Jommelli’s Armida Abbandonata (1770)
  – Christoph Gluck’s Ifigenia in Aulide (1774)
  – Giovanni Paisiello’s Nina pazza per amore (1789)
  – Wolfgang Mozart’s Cosi` Fan Tutte (1790)
Women in the 18th Century

• Hannah More (1745): “Coelebs in Search of a Wife” (1807)
  – Condemns shallow and decadent lifestyle of cities
  – Emphasis on familial duties
  – Woman’s life centered in her home and family
  – Equality of the sexes is unnatural and immoral
  – Birth of Victorian morality
Women in the 18th Century

• Evangelicals
  – Campaign to save England from moral decadence
  – Emergence of middle-class values to counterbalance loss of values in the aristocracy
  – Authority of a man derives from his moral status
  – A woman is a mother and a wife
  – Separate sexual spheres become middle-class institutions
Women in the 18th Century

• Japan - Tokugawa Shogunate (1602-1868)
  – Women have no legal status:
    • cannot own property,
    • can be divorced and even killed by their husbands,
    • are allowed to learn only hiragana (all political, business and literary writing is in kanji)
Women in the 18th Century

- Maori of New Zealand
  - Polygamy
  - Premarital sex is normal
  - It is customary to offer a female partner to a male guest for the duration of his visit
Women in the 19th century

Paris, 1804
Paris, 1828
Paris, 1856
Paris, 1882
Japan, 19th c
Women in the 19th Century

- Powerful women
  - Ranavalona I, queen of Madagascar (1828-61)
  - Isabella II, queen of Spain 1833-68
  - Victoria, queen of England, 1837-1901
  - Tsu Hsi/ Ci Xi, Dowager empress of China (1861–1908)
Women in the 19th Century

- Intrepid women
  - 1798 - France's Jeanne Labrosse makes a solo balloon flight
  - 1850 - Amelia Jenks-Bloomer begins publicizing a new style of women's pants or “bloomers”
  - Adele Hugo (travels alone to America to follow the man she loves)
  - 1890 - New York reporter Nellie Bly becomes the first woman to travel around the world alone
Women in the 19th Century

• Intrepid women
  – Helena Blavatsky: world traveler and founder of Theosophical Society (1875)
  – 1891 - Mary French Sheldon mounts her first expedition to East Africa
  – 1900 - The first women to compete in the Olympics play in just three sports: tennis, golf, and croquet
  – 1910 - 19-year old Blanche Stuart Scott becomes the first woman to fly a plane solo
Women in the 19th Century

• Smart women
  – Ada Lovelace writes the first algorithm for a computer (Britain, 1843)
  – Elizabeth Blackwell becomes the first woman to obtain a medical degree (USA, 1849)
  – Florence Nightingale founds a school for nurses (Britain, 1860)
Women in the 19th century

• Britain until 1929
  – Age of consent: 12 for girls and 14 for boys
    (minimum age at which marriage is permitted
    with parental consent)
Women in the 19th century

- India
  - Gandhi married a child bride of 14 (About the marriage night Gandhi recalled: “Oh! that first night. Two innocent children all unwittingly hurled themselves into the ocean of life”)
Women in the 19th century

- **Sex**
  - Paolo Mantegazza: "Gli amori degli uomini/ Sexual Relationships of Mankind" (1885)
  - Patrick Geddes: "The Evolution of Sex" (1889)
  - Havelock Ellis: "Studies in the Psychology of Sex" (1897)
  - Otto Weininger: "Sex and Character" (1903)
  - Iwan Bloch: "Das Sexualleben Unserer Zeit/ The Sexual Life of our Time" (1907)
Women in the 19th century

• Sexual Revolution
  – 1863: Karl Heinrich Ulrichs defends the rights of homosexuals in Germany
  – 1870: Victoria Woodhull advocates free love in her “Weekly” magazine
  – 1892: Clelia Mosher's survey of 45 women in the USA proves that women can have orgasms
  – 1897: "La Fronde" feminist newspaper debuts in France
  – 1903: First nudist colony opens in Germany
Women in the 19th century

• Female journals
  – “La Femme Libre” (1832)
  – “The Englishwoman’s journal” (1859)
  – “Revolution” (USA, 1868)
  – “Dokumente der Frauen” (1899)
Women in the 19th century

• Publications for women
  – 1867: Harper's Bazar for women
  – 1890: Charles Dana Gibson's posters create an ideal of female beauty ("Gisbon girls")
Women in the 19th century

• Publications for women
  – Jules Cheret’s posters “liberate” women: neither a whore nor a saint but an independent woman who has fun in sexy dresses
Women in the 19th century

- Feminist treatises
  - Margaret Fuller: “Woman in the Nineteenth Century” (1843)
  - John Stuart Mill: “The Subjection of Women” (1869)
  - August Bebel: “Die Frau und der Sozialismus” (1883)
  - Friedrich Engels: “The Origin of Family, Private Property and the State” (1884)
  - Articles by Anna Kuliscioff (Italy, 1880s)
  - Charlotte Perkins: “Women and Economics” (1898)

“Woman is the last thing to be civilized by man” (Meredith, 1859)
Women in the 19th Century

• Charles Fourier (1808)
  – Freedom of women to emulate men
  – The progress and prosperity of humankind depends on the degree of women’s freedom

• Karl Marx (1844)
  – Marriage and family as a system of property relations in which women are treated as commodities
  – Wage labor is the first step towards female emancipation
Women in the 19th century

- USA feminism
  - 1850: First International Women’s Congress
  - 1865: political rights granted to former slaves but not to women
  - 1919: political rights extended to women
Women in the 19th century

• Puritanism
  – 1865: The “Salvation Army”
  – 1873: Anthony Comstock founds the Society for the Suppression of Vice
  – 1874: The Woman's Christian Temperance Union is founded
  – 1896 - Pierre de Coubertin bars women from the first modern Olympics in Athens
Women in the 19th century

- Temperance movement (Ohio, 1873)
  - Eliza Thompson
  - The first case of nonviolent civil disobedience
  - Total abstinence through moral persuasion
  - 1300 liquor stores close down in one year
  - 1874: National Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU)
  - 1879: Frances Willard president of the WCTU
  - Total abstinence through political means
  - Goal: a worldwide ban on alcohol
Women in the 19th century

• Women’s education in Germany
  – 1865: Louise Otto-Peters and Auguste Schmidt found the German Women's Association (Allgemeiner Deutscher Frauenverein) in Leipzig
  – 1865: The Prussian lawyer Adolf Lette founds the Lette Association for the Encouragement of Women's Employment in Berlin (Lette Verein)
  – 1925: 36% of the German workforce is female
Women in the 19th century

- Women’s liberation
  - Helen Keller (1880)
    - deaf blind
    - first deaf and blind person to graduate
    - pacifist, feminist, socialist
Women in the 19th century

• Britain
  – Legal age of marriage: 14 for men, 12 for women (until 1920)
Women in the 19th century

Beauty
- 1840: Guerlain introduces the first lipstick
- 1846: David Hough invents a hoop skirt supported by a dome-shaped crinoline
- 1852: The first public bathhouse opens in New York
- 1856: W.S. Thompson invents the steel-frame cage crinoline
- 1869: Steam molding enables stiffer corsets
- 1872: The bustle becomes more popular than the crinoline
- 1875: Charles Michel uses electrolysis for removal of facial hair
- 1875: The long-waisted corset is introduced
- 1888: Mum introduces the first deodorant
- 1889: Teresa Dean publishes "How to be Beautiful"
- 1890: Charles Gibson's illustrations of the "Gibson Girl" promote the S-shaped tall and slender woman as fashionable, and therefore the swan-bill corset
- 1892: The fashion magazine Vogue debuts launched
- 1892: Burroughs Wellcome introduces the first vanishing cream, "Hazeline Snow"
Women in the 19th century

Beauty
- 1894: Paul Unna discovers the relationship between sun exposure and skin aging,
- 1896: Colgate introduces toothpaste in tubes
- 1903: Helena Rubinstein begins selling her Valaze anti-aging cream
- 1907: Pond begins to sell a day beauty cream and a night beauty cream
- 1907: Australian swimmer Annette Kellerman is arrested on a Boston beach for wearing a one-piece swimsuit
- 1907: Eugene Schueller (founder of L'Oreal) invents the first synthetic hair dye
- 1909: Diaghilev's ballets in Paris launch the fad of mascara
- 1910: Paul Poiret introduces his girdle
- 1911: Oskar Troplowitz's Beiersdorf introduces the Nivea anti-aging cream, the first stable water-in-oil emulsifier
- 1912: Suzanne Noel performs the first "face-lift" cosmetic surgery
- 1912: Coco Chanel proclaims that women should dress for themselves and not only for men
Women in the 19th century

Beauty

– 1914: Mary Phelps-Jacobs files the first patent for a bra
– 1914: Cutex introduces liquid nail polish
– 1915: A portable lipstick container is marketed by Scovill
– 1915: Gillette introduces the Milady razor for women to remove underarm hair
– 1915: Elizabeth Arden introduces the Ardena Skin Tonic lotion and the Venetian Cream Amoretta beauty cream
– 1917: Maybelline mascara makes mascara affordable for everybody
– 1918: By the end of World War I the popularity of the corset has dramatically declined, replaced by the girdle
– 1923: The swivel-up tube for lipstick is invented by James Mason in the middle of a lipstick craze
– 1923: Coco Chanel makes suntanning fashionable
– 1926: Greta Garbo launches the fad of the eyebrow pencil
– 1926: Maidenform introduces a push-up bra
Women in the 19th century

Beauty

- 1932: Revlon introduces a nail polish, a variation on the nitrocellulose-based substance invented by Carleton Ellis
- 1935: Warners introduces four cup sizes called A, B, C and D
- 1936: L’Oreal invents sunscreen
- 1939: DuPont launches nylon stockings
- 1943: A poster of Betty Grable launches the fad for shaved legs
- 1946: Louis Reard and Jacques Heim introduce the bikini
- 1947: Christian Dior promotes wide hips and tiny waists as fashionable causing a renaissance of the corset
- 1950: Hazel Bishop invents kiss-proof lipstick
- 1952: Mum introduces the underarm deodorant
- 1954: Roger Vivier invents the stiletto heel
- 1958: Silhouette introduces the all-elastic X girdle that causes the decline of the corset
- 1960: An article in Harper's Bazaar publicizes the face-lift to ordinary women
- 1962: Frank Gerow and Thomas Cronin perform the first silicone breast implant
Women in the 19th century

- Women in male literature
  - Heinrich Kleist (1777, Germany): "Die Marquise von O" (1808)
  - Honore' de Balzac’s "Eugenie Grandet" (1833)
  - Nathaniel Hawthorne’s "The Scarlet Letter" (1850)
  - Gustave Flaubert’s "Madame Bovary" (1857)
  - Lewis Carroll (Britain, 1832): "Alice in Wonderland" (1865)
  - Emile Zola’s "Therese Raquin" (1867) and "Nana" (1880)
  - Juan Valera’s "Pepita Jimenez" (1874)
  - Lev Tolstoy’s "Anna Karenina" (1877)
Women in the 19th century

• Women in male literature
  – Benito Perez-Galdos’ "Fortunata y Jacinta" (1887)
  – August Strindberg’s "Froeken Julie/ Miss Julie" (1888)
  – Henrik Ibsen’s "Et Dukkehjem/ Doll's House" (1879) and "Hedda Gabler" (1890)
  – Thomas Hardy’s "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" (1891)
  – Theodor Fontane’s "Effi Briest" (1895)
Women in the 19th century

• Women in male literature
  – Henry James’ "Portait of a Lady" (1879)
    • Isabel Archer declares her intention to remain unmarried: “If there's a thing in the world I'm fond of it’s my personal independence.” “I wish to be free even to do that if the fancy takes me.”
Women in the 19th century

• Women in operas
  – Gioacchino Rossini’s La Gazza Ladra (1817)
  – Vincenzo Bellini’s Norma (1831)
  – Gaetano Donizetti’s Lucia di Lammermoor (1835)
  – Giuseppe Verdi’s La Traviata (1853) and Aida (1871)
  – Richard Wagner’s Die Walkuere (1856)
  – Georges Bizet’s Carmen (1875)
  – Modest Moussorgsky’s Khovancina (1886)
  – Jules Massenet’s Manon (1884)
Women in the 19th Century

- Female writers
  - Jane Austen (Britain, 1775): "Pride and Prejudice" (1813)
  - Cecilia Bohl de Feber/ Fernan Caballero (Spain, 1796): "Gaviota" (1849)
  - Maria Shelley (Britain, 1797): "Frankenstein" (1818)
  - Harriet Stowe (USA, 1811): "Uncle Tom's Cabin" (1852)
  - Charlotte Bronte (Britain, 1816): "Jane Eyre" (1847)
  - Emily Bronte (Britain, 1818): "Wuthering Heights" (1847)
  - Narcyza Zmichowska "Gabryella" (Poland, 1819): "Poganka/ The Pagan" (1846)
  - George Eliot (Britain, 1819): "Middlemarch" (1872)
  - Bozena Nemcova (Czech, 1820): "Babicka/ Grandmother" (1855)
Women in the 19th Century

- Female writers
  - Emily Dickinson (USA, 1830): "Poems" (1886) [p]
  - Rosalia de Castro (Spain, 1837): "Cantares Gallegos" (1863) [p]
  - Eliza Orzeszkowa (Poland, 1842): "Nad Niemnem/ On the Niemen" (1888)
  - Minna Canth (Finland, 1844): "Papin Perhe/ The Pastor's Family" (1891) [t]
  - Emilia Pardo-Bazan (Spain, 1851): "Los Pazos de Ulloa" (1886)
Women in the 19th century

• Women in paintings

• Francisco Goya (1746, Spain): “Aquelarre” (1821)
• Jean-Francois Millet (1814): The Gleaners (1851)
Women in the 19th Century

• Female artists
  – Constance Mayer-Lamartiniere 1775-1821 French Painter
  – Ann Sanders 1778 British Painter
  – Anna Claypoole Peale 1791-1878 American Painter
  – Julia Margaret Cameron 1815-1879 British Photographer
  – Emma Stebbins 1815-1882 American Sculptor
  – Henriette Ronner-Knip 1821-1909 Dutch Painter
  – Kitty Kielland 1843-1914 Norwegian Painter
  – Edmonia Lewis 1845-1911 African-American Sculptor
  – Gertrude Kasebier 1852-1934 American Photographer
  – Louise Breslau 1856-1927 German Painter
  – Anna Bilinska 1857-1893 Ukrainian Painter
  – Anna Ancher 1859-1935 Danish Painter
  – Camille Claudel 1864-1943 French Sculptor
Women in the 19th Century

• Arabella Goddard (1836), pianist
  – Performed Beethoven’s sonata mostly from memory (1850s)
Women in the 19th Century

• Anna Atkins
  – First female photographer and first scientific photographer
  – “Study of Algae” (1842)
Women in the 20th century

Paris, 1900

USA, 1928
Women in the 20th century

• Psychoanalysis
  – Separation of sex and sexuality (sexuality is universal and omnipresent, regardless of biological sex)
  – A non-biological sexual life drives ordinary lives
Women in the 20th century

• The woman as a consumer
  – The new mode of production creates a division between producer and consumer, and relegates the woman to the role of the consumer
  – In the new mode of production life was easier and safer, but confined to the domestic sphere
  – Eventually women are just a market segment (kitchenware, furniture, cosmetics, appliances)
  – Men invent them, make them and sell them. Women buy them.
Women in the 20th century

• The woman as a service worker
  – Servant jobs are taken up by former slaves and soon replaced by appliances
  – Machines create light unskilled factory jobs that can be performed by women
  – Women enter the industrial workforce (2.6 million to 8.6 million between 1880 and 1900)
Women in the 20th century

• The woman as a service worker
  – Machines also create light unskilled office jobs (4% of white-collar workers are women in 1880, almost 50% in 1900)
  – In 1881 virtually all phone operators were women
  – In 1900 there are 112,000 typists and stenographers, of which 77% are women.
  – But only men are trained to become managers
Women in the 20th century

• The woman as a service worker
  – Shift from domestic service (50% of female workers in the USA in 1870) to white-collar jobs (38% in 1920)
  – White-collar jobs appeal also to middle-class urban women, not only country or poor urban girls
  – White-collar jobs create a new class of single women (most USA female college graduates between 1870 and 1900 lived single lives for several years)
Women in the 20th century

• The woman as a service worker
  – During World War I: British metal and chemical industries employ 212,000 women in 1914, but 923,000 in 1918
Women in the 20th century

• The woman as an “assistant”
  – The secretary
  – The flight attendant
  – The nurse
Women in the 20th century

- Cars and women
  - After the invention of the self-starter, driving a car requires skills, not strength (unlike horse-driven coaches), and therefore can be used by women
  - Closed cars don’t require special clothes
  - Heating, A/C and automatic transmission are introduced especially for the female customer
  - The car liberates the housewife
  - The electric refrigerator (popularized by General Motors’ Frigidaire!)
  - Appliances for cleaning, washing, cooking
  - Instead of a producer of food and clothes, the housewife becomes a shopper
Women in the 20th century

- Women’s liberation
  - 1893: Female suffrage in New Zealand
  - 1899: Qasim Amin’s "The Liberation of Women" (Egypt, 1899)
  - 1903: The “suffragettes” in Britain
  - 1906: Female suffrage in Finland
  - 1917: Mobilization of European women for the war
  - 1918: Nancy Astor becomes the first female member of the British Parliament
  - 1919: Millicent Garrett Fawcett's "The Women's Victory"
  - 1919: Margaret Sanger founds the National Birth Control League
  - 1919: Halide Edib, heroine of the Turkish revolution
  - 1923: Egyptian feminist Huda Shaarawi publicly unveils
Women

Suffragettes (Women's Social and Political Union, Britain, 1903, Emmeline and Sylvia Pankhurst)
Women in the 20th century

- Women of the Russian revolution
  - *Working Women's Mutual Assistance Association* (1907)
  - The first International Conference of Socialist Women (Stuttgart, 1907)
  - Congress of all Russian women (1908)
  - Alexandra Kollontai’s “The Social Foundations of the Women's Question” (1909)
  - The second International Conference of Socialist Women (Copenhagen, 1910)
  - First international women's day (19 March 1911)
  - "The Woman Worker" (1914), a journal for working class women
Women in the 20th century

- Women of the Russian revolution
  - The revolution begins on 23 February 1917 with a demonstration by women
  - Women recognized as citizens, with equal rights to men
  - Maternity leave, equal employment and wages
  - Abortion legalized (1920)
Women in the 20th Century

- Female suffrage
  - 1906 Finland
  - 1913 Norway
  - 1915 Denmark
  - 1918 Austria, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Hungary, Poland
  - 1919 Netherlands, Sweden
  - 1920 USA
  - 1928 Britain
  - 1930 Turkey
  - 1932 Brazil, Thailand
  - 1934 Cuba
Women in the 20th Century

• USA
  – 1916: Jeannette Rankin, first female member of the House of Representatives
  – 1921: Margaret Sanger founds the American Birth Control League (later the Planned Parenthood Federation of America)
  – 1922: Rebecca Ann Latimer Felton, first female USA senator (for two days only)
  – 1933: Frances Perkins, secretary of labor, first USA female cabinet member
  – 1935: Margaret Mead’s “Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies”
Women in the 20th Century

• USA
  – Sara Josephine Baker, first director of New York’s Bureau of Child Hygiene from 1908 to 1923, dramatically reduces maternal and child mortality
  – Jane Addams in 1889 co-founds the first settlement house in the USA (Nobel Prize for Peace 1931)
Women in the 20th Century

• Fashion
  – Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel (1912): Women should dress for themselves and not only for men (comfort, simplicity, mannish)
Women in the 20th century

• Women in male literature
  – Frank Wedekind’s "Die Buechse der Pandora" (1904) [t]
  – Anton Chekhov’s "Tri Sestry/ Three Sisters" (1901) [t]
  – Vladimir Nabokov’s "Ada" (1969) and "Lolita" (1955)
  – Jorge Amado’s "Gabriela Cravo e Canela" (1958) and "Dona Flor e seus Dois Maridos" (1966) +
Women in the 20th century

• Women in operas
  – Leos Janacek’s Katja Kabanova (1921)
  – Giacomo Puccini’s Madame Butterfly (1904), Turandot (1926) and La Boheme (1896)
  – Richard Strauss’ Salome (1905) and Elektra (1909)
  – Franz Lehar (Hungary, 1870): The Merry Widow (1905)
  – Alban Berg (Austria, 1885): Lulu (1935)
  – Dmitrij Shostakovic’s Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk (1934)
Women in the 20th century

• Women in paintings
  – Eduard Manet’s “Le Dejeuner sur l'Herbe” (1863) and “Olympia” (1863)
Women in the 20th century

• Female writers
  – Anastasia Verbitskaya (Russia, 1861): "Klyuchi Schastya/ Keys Of Happiness" (1913)
  – Edith Wharton (USA, 1862): "The Age of Innocence" (1920)
  – Sidonie Colette (France, 1873): "Cheri" (1920)
  – Gertrude Stein (USA, 1874): "The Making of Americans" (1925)
  – Hortensia Papadat-Bengescu (Romania, 1876): "Concert din Muzica de Bach" (1927)
  – Willa Cather (USA, 1876): "Death Comes for the Archbishop" (1927)
  – Elena Guro (Russia, 1877): "Sharmanka/ Hurdy Gurdy" (1909) [p]
  – Margarita Kaffka (Hungary, 1880): "Szinek es Evek/ Colors and Years" (1912)
  – Maria Jotuni (Finland, 1880): "Miehen Kylkiluu/ Man's Rib" (1914) [t]
  – Rose Macaulay (Britain, 1881): "The Towers of Trebizond" (1956)
Women in the 20th century

- Female writers
  - Katherine Mansfield (New Zealand, 1888): "The Garden Party" (1922)
  - Marietta Shaginyan (Russia, 1888): "K i K" (1929)
  - Anna Akhmatova (Russia, 1889): "Poema Bez Geroia/ Poem Without A Hero" (1962) [p]
  - Lidya Seifullina (Russia, 1889): "Virineja" (1924)
  - Marja Dabrowska (Poland, 1889): "Noce i Dnie/ Nights and Days" (1934)
  - Vera Inber (Russia, 1890): "Pulkovo Meridian" (1942) [p]
  - Marina Tsvetaeva (Russia, 1892): "Poema Kontsa/ Poem of the End" (1924) [p]
  - Rebecca West (Britain, 1892): "The Fountain Overflows" (1956)
  - Maria Pawlikowska (Poland, 1891): "Krystalizacje/ Cristallizations" (1937) [p]
Women in the 20th Century

- Painters
  - The "Amazons", female Russian avantgarde painters of the 1910s (Alexandra Exter, Natalia Goncharova, Liubov Popova, Olga Rozanova, Varvara Stepanova, and Nadezhda Udaltsov)
  - Sonia Terk is the first living woman to have an exhibition at the Louvre (1964)
  - Georgia O'Keeffe (USA, 1887)
Women in the 20th Century

• Scientists
  – Marie Curie, first female Nobel Prize (1903 and 1911)
  – Emmy Noether, “the most important woman in the history of mathematics” (Albert Einstein)
  – Sofia Kovalevskaya, first woman to hold a university chair in Europe
  – Rita Levi-Montalcini
Women in the 20th Century

• Scientists
  – Eleanor Rosch
  – Lynn Margulis
  – Susan Greenfield
  – Annette Karmiloff-Smith
  – Fotini Markopoulou
Women in the 20th Century

• Adventurers
  – Gertrude Bell (British explorer of the Middle East since 1892 and member of the Iraqi government in the 1920s)
  – Amelia Earhart (USA aviator, flies across the Atlantic to Ireland in 1932)
  – Annette Kellermann (Australian swimmer, crosses the Channel in 1905)
Women in the 20th Century

• Social workers in the USA
  – Helen Keller, blind philanthropist
  – Clara Barton, “Red Cross” nurse
  – Margaret Sanger, first birth control clinic
Women in the 20th Century

• Stars
  – Theater
  – Musical
  – Music
  – Cinema
Women in the 20th Century

- Theater stars
  - Sarah Bernhardt
- Broadway stars
  - Josephine Baker
  - Fanny Brice
  - Sophie Tucker
  - Marilyn Miller
  - Helen Morgan
  - Judy Garland
- Dancers
  - Isadora Duncan
  - Anna Pavlova
- Comics
  - Blondie (1930, Chic Young)
Women in the 20th Century

• Singers
  – Blues
    • Bessie Smith
    • Ma Rainey
  – Jazz
    • Billie Holiday
    • Ella Fitzgerald
    • Sarah Vaughan
  – Vaudeville
    • Marie Dressler
  – Country
    • Maybelle Carter
    • Patsy Montana
Women in the 20th Century

• Singers
  – Opera sopranos
  – Opera contraltos
Women in the 20th Century

• Movie stars
  – Mary Pickford
  – Lilian Gish
  – Gloria Swanson
  – Pola Negri
  – Louise Brooks
  – Mae West
  – Bette Davis
  – Rita Hayworth
  – Joan Crawford
  – Jean Harlow
  – Marlene Dietrich
  – Greta Garbo
  – Katherine Hepburn
Women in the 20th Century

- Female directors
  - Leni Riefenstahl
Women in the 20th Century

- Female directors
  - Maya Deren (Eleanora Derenkowsky)
Women in the 20th Century

- Female writers
  - Selma Lagerloef (Sweden, 1858): "Nils Holgerssons underbara Resa Genom Sverige/ Wonderful Adventures of N.H." (1907)
  - Edith Wharton (USA, 1862): "The Age of Innocence" (1920)
  - Flora-Macdonald Mayor (Britain, 1872): "The Rector's Daughter" (1924)
  - Gertrude Stein (USA, 1874): "The Making of Americans" (1925)
  - Willa Cather (USA, 1876): "Death Comes for the Archbishop" (1927)
  - Gertrud von LeFort (Germany, 1876): "Am Tor des Himmels" (1954) +
  - Rose Macaulay (Britain, 1881): "The Towers of Trebizond" (1956)
  - Virginia Woolf (Britain, 1882): "To the Lighthouse" (1927)
  - Sigrid Undset (Norway, 1882): "Kristin Lavransdatter" (1922)
Women in the 20th Century

- **Female writers**
  - Karen "Isak Dinesen" Blixen (Denmark, 1885): "Gengaeldelsens Veje/ The Angelic Avengers" (1944)
  - Ina Seidel (Germany, 1885): "Das Wunschkind" (1930)
  - Hilda Doolittle (USA, 1886): "Helen in Egypt" (1961) [p]
  - Marianne Moore (USA, 1887): "Observations" (1924) [p]
  - Edith Sitwell (Britain, 1887): "The Outcasts" (1962) [p]
  - Katherine Mansfield (New Zealand, 1888): "The Garden Party" (1922)
  - Gabriela Mistral (Chile, 1889): "Desolacion" (1922) [p]
  - Moa Martinson (Sweden, 1890): "Mor Gifter Sig/ My Mother Gets Married" (1936)
  - Agatha Christie (Britain, 1890): "Murder on the Orient Express" (1934)
  - Nelly Sachs (Germany, 1891): "Und niemand weiss weiter" (1957) [p]
Women in the 20th Century

- **Female writers**
  - Edith Soedergran (Finland, 1892): "Septemberlyran" (1918) [p]
  - Juana de Ibarbourou (Uruguay, 1892): "Las Lenguas de Diamante" (1918) [p]
  - Djuna Barnes (USA, 1892): "Nightwood" (1936)
  - Ivy Compton-Burnett (Britain, 1892): "Men and Wives" (1931)
  - Rebecca West (Britain, 1892): "The Fountain Overflows" (1956)
  - Sylvia-Townsend Warner (Britain, 1893): "Lolly Willowes" (1926)
  - Rosa Chacel (Spain, 1898): "Memorias de Leticia Valle" (1945)
  - Elizabeth Bowen (Ireland, 1899): "The Death of the Heart" (1938)
  - Elisabeth Langgaesser (Germany, 1899): "Das unausloeschliche Siegel" (1946)
  - Anna Kavan (Britain, 1901): "The House of Sleep" (1947)
  - Cecilia Meireles (Brazil, 1901): "Retrato Natural" (1949) [p]
  - Zora Hurston (USA, 1901): "Their Eyes Were Watching God" (1937)
  - Julia Strachey (Britain, 1901): "Cheerful Weather for the Wedding" (1932)
Women in the 20th Century

- Female writers
  - Marieluise Kaschnitz (Germany, 1901): "Totentanz und Gedichte zur Zeit" (1947) [p]
  - Maria Polydouri (Greece, 1902): "The Trilles that Faint" (1928) [p]
  - Christina Stead (Australia, 1902): "The Man Who Loved Children" (1940)
  - Nathalie Sarraute (France, 1902): "Portrait d'un Inconnu" (1949)
  - Marguerite Yourcenar (France, 1903): "Memoires d'Hadrien" (1951)
  - Anais Nin (USA, 1903): "Ladders to Fire" (1946)
  - Molly Keane (Ireland, 1905): "Good Behavior" (1981)
  - Lilian Hellman (USA, 1905): "The Little Foxes" (1939) [t]
  - Ernestina de Champourcin (Spain, 1905): "Cantico Inutil" (1936) [p]
  - Vera Panova (Russia, 1905): "Viremena Goda/ Span of the Year" (1953)
  - Ayn Rand (USA, 1905): “The Fountainhead” (1943)
Women in the 20th Century

• Female philosophers
  – Susanne Langer
Women in the 20th Century

• Soap opera (radio)
  – The soap opera continued the tradition of women's domestic fiction of the nineteenth century
  – Irna Phillips, first specialist of soap operas: Today's Children (1932), The Guiding Light (1937), Woman in White (1938)
  – "Our Gal Sunday" (serial drama, 1937)

• Romance novels
Post-war Society

Paris, 1949

USA, 1961

London, 1963

USA, 1967

USA, 1976
Post-war Society

- Female suffrage
  - 1941 Indonesia
  - 1944 France
  - 1945 Italy, Japan
  - 1946 Romania, Yugoslavia
  - 1947 Argentina, Pakistan, Venezuela, China
  - 1948 Burma, Israel, South Korea
  - 1949 Chile, China, India
Post-war Society

- Women’s condition in the 1950s
  - Child rearing becomes a medical discipline
  - The woman becomes a sexual object (pornography)
  - The woman as a consumer (products such as appliances and cosmetics and fashion target women)
  - Housekeeping becomes a profession (not just a “role”)
  - Abortion mostly illegal (Iceland 1935)
Post-war Society

• The female economy
  – Teeth straightening/whitening
  – Silicon breast implants (1962)
  – Chin jobs
  – Sclerotherapy
  – Cosmetics
  – Perfumes
  – Depilation
  – Hair styling
  – Nail manicure
  – Glasses
  – Watches
  – Beauty gyms
  – Fashion apparel
  – Pantyhose
  – Stockings
  – Shoes
  – Bras
  – Skirts
  – Bags
  – Swimsuits
Post-war Society

- Sexual Revolution
  - 1948: John Rock fertilizes a human egg in a test tube
  - 1953: the magazine "Playboy"
  - 1962: Helen Gurley Brown publishes "Sex and the Single Girl"
  - 1964: Syntex introduces the birth-control pill
  - 1973: abortion is legalized in the USA (France 1975, West Germany 1976, Italy 1978)
Post-war Society

• Feminism
  – 1949: Simone de Beauvoir's "Le Deuxième Sexe"
  – 1949: Argentinian Eva Perón founds the Peronista Feminist Party
  – 1963: Betty Friedan's "The Feminine Mystique"
  – 1964: Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the bases of sex
Post-war Society

- Female achievements
  - 1955: Rosa Parks
  - 1961: “Women Strike for Peace” ("End the Arms Race, Not the Human Race")
  - 1963: Valentina Tereshkova, first female astronaut
  - 1962: Rachel Carson's ecologist "Silent Spring"
  - 1968: Ishimure Michiko' ecologist “Kukai jodo/Sea of Suffering”
Post-war Society

- Movie stars
  - Doris Day
  - Marilyn Monroe
  - Natalie Wood
  - Jane Fonda
  - Sophia Loren
  - Ingrid Bergman
  - Catherine Deneuve
  - Brigitte Bardot
  - Jeanne Moreau
Post-war Society

- **Comics**
  - *Barbarella* (1962, Jean-Claude Forest)
  - *Modesty Blaise* (1962, Peter O'donnell/Jim Holdaway)
  - *Mafalda* (1964, Quino)
  - *Valentina* (1965, Guido Crepax)
  - *Shōjo manga* (1969, Japan): manga drawn by female artists for an audience of girls
  - *Mangas*: Machiko Hasegawa's "Sazae-san" (1946), Osamu Tezuka's "Ribon no Kishi/Princess Knight" (1953), Matsuteru Yokoyama's "Mahōtsukai Sarii/ Little Witch Sally" (1966)
  - *No Nausicaa* (1982, Hayao Miyazaki)
Post-war Society

• Singers
  – Gospel/soul
    • Mahalia Jackson
    • Aretha Franklin
  – Jazz
    • Abbey Lincoln
    • Patty Waters
    • Jeanne Lee
  – Pop
    • Peggy Lee
    • Andrew Sisters
    • Yma Sumac
Post-war Society

• Singers
  – Country
    • Kitty Wells
    • Patsy Cline
    • Loretta Lynn
    • Tammy Wynette
    • Dolly Parton
  – Wanda Jackson
  – Teen idols
  – Girl Groups
Post-war Society

• Singers
  – Edith Piaf
  – Juliette Greco
  – Francoise Hardy
  – Joan Baez
  – Marianne Faithful
  – Grace Slick
  – Janis Joplin
  – Joni Mitchell
  – Joan Jett
Post-war Society

- Situation comedy (tv)
  - I Love Lucy (1951)
  - Bewitched (1964)
  - Charlie's Angels (1976)

- Telenovela
  - Los Ricos También Lloran (1979)
  - O Bem-Amado (1973)
Post-war Society

• Feminism
  – 1970: Germaine Greer's "The Female Eunuch"
  – 1971: journalist Gloria Steinem founds the first feminist magazine, "Ms Magazine"
  – 1978: more women than men enter college in the USA
  – 1981: Andrea Dworkin's "Pornography - Men Possessing Women"
  – 1982: Carol Gilligan's difference feminism
  – 1982: Madonna
  – 1989: Riot grrrrrls in Seattle
  – 1990: Judith Butler: "Gender Trouble"
Post-war Society

• Punk & Disco
Post-war Society

- Supermodels
  - Lisa Fonssagrives (1930s-1950s)
  - Twiggy (1960s)
  - Veruschka (1960s)
  - Janice Dickinson (1970s)
  - Naomi Campbell (1980s)
  - Claudia Schiffer
  - Cindy Crawford
  - Heidi Klum (1990s)
Post-war Politics

• Heads of states
  – Age of Indira Gandhi
    • Sri Lanka: Sirimavo Bandaranaike (1960)
    • India: Indira Gandhi (1966-84)
    • Israel: Golda Meir (1969-74)
    • Argentina: Isabel Peron (1974-76)
Post-war Politics

• Heads of states
  – Age of Margaret Thatcher
    • Britain: Margaret Thatcher (1979-90)
    • Portugal: Maria Pintasilgo (1979)
    • Dominica: Mary-Eugenia Charles (1980)
    • Norway: Gro Harlem Brundtland (1981)
    • Iceland: Vigdís Finnbogadóttir (1980-96)
    • Philippines: Corazon Aquino (1986-92)
    • Pakistan: Benazir Bhutto (1988-96)
    • Nicaragua: Violeta Chamorro (1990-97)
    • Ireland: Mary Robinson (1990-97)
    • Bangladesh: Khaleda Zia (1991)
    • Turkey: Tansu Çiller (1993)
Post-war Politics

• Heads of states
  – End of Cold War
    • Canada: Kim Campbell (1993)
    • Bangladesh: Hasina Wajed (1996)
    • New Zealand: Jenny Shipley (1997), Helen Clark (1999)
    • Ireland: Mary McAleese (1997)
    • Guyana: Janet Jagan (1997-99)
    • Latvia: Vaira Vike-Freiberga (1999-07)
    • Switzerland: Ruth Dreifuss (1999-99)
    • Panama: Mireya Moscoso (1999-04)
    • Finland: Tarja Halonen (2000)
Post-war Politics

- Heads of states
  - Age of Angela Merkel
    - Philippines: Gloria Arroyo (2001)
    - Senegal: Mame Madior Boye (2001)
    - Indonesia: Megawati Sukarnoptri (2001)
    - Finland's prime minister Anneli Jaatteenmaki (2003)
    - Germany: Angela Merkel (2005)
    - Ukraine's prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko (2005)
    - Chile: Michelle Bachelet (2006)
    - Argentina: Cristina Fernandez-Kirchner (2007)
    - Bangladesh: Sheikh Hasina Wajed (2009)
    - Iceland: Jóhanna Sigurdardóttir (2009)
    - Lithuania: Dalia Grybauskaite (2009)
Post-war Politics

• Heads of states
  – Age of Merkel
    • Slovakia: Iveta Radicová (2010)
    • Costa Rica: Laura Chinchilla (2010)
    • Australia: Julia Gillard (2010)
    • Brazil: Dilma Rousseff (2010)
    • Denmark: Helle Thorning-Schmidt (2011)
    • Thailand: Yingluck Shinawatra (2011)
    • Switzerland: Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf (2012)
    • Serbia: Slavica Djukic Dejanovic (2012)
    • Malawi: Joyce Banda (2012)
    • South Korea: Park Geun-hye (2012)
    • Jamaica: Portia Simpson Miller (2012)
Post-war Politics

• Heads of states
  – Age of Merkel
    • Senegal: Aminata Touré (2013)
    • Norway: Erna Solberg (2013)
    • Latvia: Laimdota Straujuma (2014)
    • Central African Republic: Catherine Samba-Panza (2014)
    • Chile: Michelle Bachelet (2014)
    • Poland: Ewa Kopacz (2014)
Post-war Politics

• Remnants from another age:
  – Jacqueline Kennedy
  – Elizabeth II, queen of Great Britain
  – Lady Diana
  – Mother Teresa/ Agnesë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu
Post-war Politics

• Ten Most Powerful Women of 2007 (Forbes)
  – 1. Angela Merkel (German chancellor)
  – 2. Wu Yi (Chinese vice-premier)
  – 3. Ho Ching (Temasek Holdings)
  – 4. Condoleezza Rice (US Secretary of State)
  – 5. Indra Nooyi (PepsiCo)
  – 6. Sonia Ghandi (Indian National Congress Party)
  – 7. Cynthia Carroll (Anglo American)
  – 8. Patricia Wortz (Archer Daniels Midland)
  – 9. Irene Rosenfeld (Kraft Foods)
  – 10. Patricia Russo (Alcatel-Lucent)
Post-war Politics

• USA Business women of 2009:
  – Indra Nooyi  Chief executive, PepsiCo
  – Irene Rosenfeld  Chief executive, Kraft Foods
  – Ellen Kullman  Chief executive, DuPont
  – Angela Braly  Chief executive, WellPoint
  – Lynn Elsenhans  Chief executive, Sunoco
  – Carol Bartz  Chief executive, Yahoo
  – Anne Mulcahy  Chief executive, Xerox
  – Mary Sammons  Chief executive, Rite Aid
  – Brenda Barnes, Sara Lee
  – Andrea Jung, Avon
Post-war Politics

- Major companies led by women in 2011:
  - USA: PepsiCo, Kraft Foods, DuPont, Avon, ADM, Angloamerican, TJX, WellPoint, Sunoco, Yahoo, Xerox, Rite Aid, Reynolds
  - Turkey: Sabanci
  - China: Gree, Nine Dragons and others
  - Japan: Temp
  - India: ICICI Bank
  - Israel: Strauss
  - Australia: Westpac
  - Singapore: Singapore Telecom and Temasek
  - Europe: Burberry (Britain), Areva (France), SEB (Sweden)
Post-war Politics

• Fortune 500 women CEOs (2014):
  – 1. Mary Barra – General Motors (No. 7 on the 2014 Fortune 500)
  – 2. Margaret Whitman – Hewlett-Packard (No. 17)
  – 3. Virginia Rometty – International Business Machines (No. 23)
  – 4. Patricia Woertz – Archer Daniels Midland (No. 27)
  – 5. Indra Nooyi – Pepsi Co (No. 43)
  – 6. Marilynn Hewson – Lockheed Martin (No. 59)
  – 7. Ellen Kullman – DuPont (No. 86)
  – 8. Irene Rosenfeld – Mondelez International (No. 89)
  – 9. Phebe Novakovic – General Dynamics (No. 99)
  – 10. Carol Meyrowitz – TJX (No. 108)
Post-war Politics

- Forbes (2014)
- 5% of the top companies have women CEOs
- 10% of the 1,645 world’s billionaires are women
The Western Society

• Typical jobs for women
  – Entertainers (singers, movie stars, comedians)
  – Supermodels
  – Nurses
  – Doctors
  – Writers
  – Artists
  – Activists
  – Business Administration/ Financial Analysts
  – Entertainment
  – Classical instrumentalists
The Western Society

• But not…
  – Architects
  – Philosophers
  – Scientists
  – Engineers
  – Classical composers
  – Jazz/rock instrumentalists
  – Presidents of the USA, Russia or China
The Western Society

• **Best countries for working women**
The Western Society

• No major female…
  – Painter
  – Composer
  – Playwright
  – Filmmaker
The Western Society

• Athletes
  − Sonja Henie (Norway, 1920s, figure skating)
  − Babe Didrikson Zaharias (USA, 1930s, track & field)
  − Jackie Joyner-Kersee (USA, 1960s, track & field)
  − Nadia Comeneci (Romania, 1970s, gymnastics)
  − Martina Navratilova (Czech, 1980s, tennis)
  − Mia Hamm (USA, 1990s, football)
The Western Society

- Beauty
The Western Society

• Carol Gilligan (1982)
  – Ethics from the female perspective
  – Male ethics emphasizes reciprocity, separation, justice
  – Female ethics emphasizes consensus, connection and empathy (the ethics of care)
  – Difference feminism
The Western Society

- Donna Haraway: "A Manifesto for Cyborgs" (1985)
- Judith Butler: “Gender Trouble” (1990)
The Western Society

Employment by gender CPS: 25-54, 1962-2010

http://www.bsos.umd.edu/socy/vanneman/endofgr/cpsempsex.html
Earnings by Gender


Year of earnings

Men

Women

http://www.bsos.umd.edu/socy/vanneman/endofgr/cpsempsexsex.html
Women in Modern China

• Liberated by communist revolution
• But never a female communist leader
• Today
  – Women are not allowed to take part when men are offering sacrifice to ancestors
  – “What girls burn is paper, not money”
• Number of employed women: 330 million, 46.7% of the country's total (40.6% of the professional workforce)
Women in Modern India

• Eastern India (Bengal and Assam):
  – Shakti cult (mother-goddess) predominates (75 % of all the idolatrous population is still Shakti)
  – Women not required to wear the veil
  – Shakti cults involve the worship of women, and the acceptance of their supremacy

• Dravidian region
  – More freedom for women than in Aryan India
  – Polyandry
  – Tantric form of the Shiva-Shakti cult
  – Matriarchal customs still prevail
Women in Modern India

• “You can tell the condition of a nation by looking at the status of its women” (Jawaharlal Nehru)
• Females receive less health care than males
• Poor legal protection
• Families are far less likely to educate girls than boys
• Women work longer hours than men
• Dowry-related murders
• Female infanticide and sex-selective abortions
• http://www.thp.org/reports/indiawom.htm
Women in Modern China/India

• Preference for male children
Women in Modern Japan

• The Japanese exception
  – A highly developed economy with little female participation
  – 2008: first female defense minister, Yuriko Koike
  – 2009: Japan ranks 106th out of 189 countries for the percentage of female parliamentarians
Women in Modern Japan

• Japan
  – First Japanese economic miracle fueled by female labor:
    • Textile exports funds the modernization program of Japan
    • Textile industry depends on female labor
    • 1900: 250,000 women work in the textile industry (63% of all industrial labor force)
  – USA occupation (1946):
    • new constitution grants equal rights to women
    • high schools become coed
    • 26 women's universities are inaugurated
Women in Modern Japan

– However:
  • most marriages still arranged (81% in 1955),
  • very few women bother to vote,
  • fewer women work (30% of the industrial labor force in 1975,
  • but 80% of them had part-time jobs and mostly in "kagyo" or household chores)
Women in Modern Africa

- Genital mutilation
Women in the Islamic world

• Varies wildly
Women in Post-war Society

- Female writers
  - Irina Grekova (Russia, 1907): "Khozyaeva Zhizni/ Masters of Life" (1960)
  - Carmen Conde (Spain, 1907): "Mujer Sin Eden" (1947) [p]
  - Dorothy Baker (USA, 1907): "Cassandra at the Wedding" (1962)
  - Olivia Manning (Britain, 1908): "The Balkan Trilogy" (1965)
  - Kathleen Raine (Britain, 1908): "Stone and Flower" (1943) [p]
  - Simone de Beauvoir (France, 1908): "Tous Les Hommes Sont Mortels" (1946)
  - Lalla Romano (Italy, 1909): "Una Giovinezza Inventata" (1979)
  - Eudora Welty (USA, 1909): "The Golden Apples" (1949)
  - Anna Swirszczynska (Poland, 1909): "Jestem Baba/ I'm a Woman" (1972) [p]
  - Margita Figuli (Slovak, 1909): "Tri Gastanove Kone/ Three Chestnut Horses" (1940)
Women in Post-war Society

• Female writers
  – Olga Berggolts (Russia, 1910): "Leningradskaya Tetrad" (1944) [p]
  – Elizabeth Bishop (USA, 1911): "Geometry III" (1976) [p]
  – Alba de Cespedes (Italy, 1911): "Quaderno Proibito" (1952)
  – Elsa Morante (Italy, 1912): "L'Isola di Arturo" (1957)
  – Mary McCarthy (USA, 1912): "The Group" (1963)
  – Elizabeth Taylor (Britain, 1912): "A Game of Hide and Seek" (1951) +
  – Barbara Pym (Britain, 1913): "Quartet in Autumn" (1977)
  – Elizabeth Smart (Canada, 1913): "By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept" (1945)
  – Marguerite Duras (France, 1914): "Moderato Cantabile" (1958)
  – Margarita Aliger (Russia, 1915): "Zoja" (1943) [p]
Women in Post-war Society

Female writers
- Marijan Matkovic (Croatia, 1915): "Igra Oko Smrti/ Death Play" (1955) [t]
- Penelope Fitzgerald (Britain, 1916): "Offshore" (1979)
- Natalia Ginzburg (Italy, 1916): "Tutti i Nostri Ieri" (1952)
- Edith Templeton (Britain, 1916): "Summer in the Country" (1950)
- Magda Szabo (Hungary, 1917): "Fresco" (1958)
- Muriel Spark (Britain, 1918): "Memento Mori" (1959)
- Shirley Jackson (USA, 1919): "The Lottery" (1948)
- Doris Lessing (Zimbabwe, 1919): "Martha Quest" (1952)
- Carmen Laforet (Spain, 1921): "Nada" (1945)
- Elena Quiroga (Spain, 1921): "Algo Pasa en la Calle" (1954)
- Erika Burkart (Germany, 1922): "Der dunkle Vogel" (1953) [p]
Women in Post-war Society

• Female writers
  – Agnes Nemes-Nagy (Hungary, 1922): "Napfordulo/ Solstice" (1967)
  – Blaga Dimitrova (Bulgaria, 1922): "Do Otre/ A Domani" (1959)
  – Wislawa Szymborska (Poland, 1923): "Sto Pociech/ Barrel of Laughs" (1967)
  – Sara Lidman (Sweden, 1923): "Tjaerdalen/ The Tar Pit" (1953)
  – Denise Levertov (USA, 1923): "O Taste and See" (1964)
  – Janet Frame (New Zealand, 1924): "Scented Gardens For The Blind" (1963)
  – MariaLuisa Spaziani (Italy, 1924): "L'occhio del ciclone" (1970)
Women in Post-war Society

- Female writers
  - Carmen Martin-Gaite (Spain, 1925): "Retahilas" (1974)
  - Ana-Maria Matute (Spain, 1926): "Primera Memoria" (1959)
  - Ingeborg Bachmann (Germany, 1926): "Anrufung des Grossen Baeren" (1956) [p]
  - Alison Lurie (USA, 1926): "Foreign Affairs" (1985)
  - Fernanda Botelho (Portugal, 1926): "Sherezade y los Otros" (1964) [p]
  - Elizabeth Jennings (Britain, 1926): "A Way of Looking" (1955) [p]
  - Ruth-Prawer Jhabvala (Britain, 1927): "Heat and Dust" (1975)
  - Anita Brookner (Britain, 1928): "Providence" (1982)
  - Brigid Brophy (Britain, 1929): "The Snow Ball" (1964)
  - Birgitta Trotzig (Sweden, 1929): "Dykungens Dotter/ The Mud King's Daughter" (1985)
Women in Post-war Society

- Female writers
  - Christa Wolf (Germany, 1929): "Kindheitsmuster" (1976)
  - Amelia Rosselli (Italy, 1930): "Serie Ospedaliera" (1969) [p]
  - Hilda Hilst (Brazil, 1930): "Da Morte Odes Minimas" (1980) [p]
  - Alice Munro (Canada, 1931): "Lives of Girls and Women" (1971)
  - Maria-Gabriela Llansol (Portugal, 1931): "El Libro de las Comunidades" (1978) [p]
  - Kiki Dimoula (Greece, 1931): "Lethe's Adolescence" (1994) [p]
  - Edna O'Brien (Ireland, 1932): "The Country Girls Trilogy" (1964)
  - Sylvia Plath (USA, 1932): "The Bell Jar" (1966)
Women in Post-war Society

- **Female writers**
  - Kerstin Ekman (Sweden, 1933): "Haexringarna/ Witches' Rings" (1974)
  - Penelope Lively (Britain, 1933): "Moon Tiger" (1987)
  - Joan Didion (USA, 1934): "Play It As It Lays" (1970)
  - Katerina Anghelaki-Rooke (Greece, 1934) "Beings and Things of Their Own " (1985) [p]
  - Nina Katerli (Russia, 1934): "Polina" (1984)
  - Monique Wittig (France, 1935): "Le Corps Lesbien" (1973) [p]
  - Nataliya Gorbanevskaya (Russia, 1936): "Stihi" (1969) [p]
  - Antonia Byatt (Britain, 1936): "Possession" (1990)
  - Dacia Maraini (Italy, 1936): "La Lunga Vita Di Marianna Ucria" (1990)
Women in Post-war Society

- **Female writers**
  - Lelia Coelho Frota (Brazil, 1936): "Menino Deitado em Alfa" (1978)
  - Nelida Pinon (Brazil, 1937): "Fundador" (1969)
  - Anita Desai (India, 1937): "Fire on the Mountain" (1977)
  - Bella Akhmadulina (Russia, 1937): "Struna/ String/ La Corda" (1962)
  - Liudmila Petrushevskiaia (Russia, 1938): "The Time: Night" (1994)
  - Joyce-Carol Oates (USA, 1938): "A Garden of Earthly Delights" (1967)
  - Marisa Madieri (Italy, 1938): "Verde Acqua" (1987)
  - Caryl Churchill (Britain, 1938): "Light Shining in Buckinghamshire" (1976)
  - Margaret Atwood (Canada, 1939): "The Handmaid's Tale" (1986)
  - Margaret Drabble (Britain, 1939): "Jerusalm the Golden" (1967)
Women in Post-war Society

- Female writers
  - Angela Carter (Britain, 1940): "Nights at the Circus" (1984)
  - Dorrit Willumsen (Denmark, 1940): "Marie" (1983)
  - Teolinda Gersao (Portugal, 1940): "O Silencio" (1981)
  - Dorrit Willumsen (Denmark, 1940): "Marie" (1983)
  - Cristina Peri-Rossi (Uruguay, 1941): "Evohe" (1971)
  - Margriet de Moor (Holland, 1941): "Eerst grijs dan wit dan Blauw/First Grey Then White Then Blue" (1990)
  - Cristina Peri-Rossi (Uruguay, 1941): "Evohe" (1971)
  - Barbara Frischmuth (Germany, 1941): "Die Mystifikationen der Sophie Silber" (1976)
  - Margriet de Moor (Holland, 1941): "Eerst grijs dan wit dan Blauw/First Grey Then White Then Blue" (1990)
  - Cristina Peri-Rossi (Uruguay, 1941): "Evohe" (1971)
  - Anne Tyler (USA, 1941): "The Breathing Lessons" (1988)
Women in Post-war Society

• Female writers
  – Susan Hill (Britain, 1942): "The Bird of Night" (1972)
  – Janette-Turner Hospital (Australia, 1942): "The Last Magician" (1992)
  – Otilia-Valeria Coman "Ana Blandiana" (Romania, 1942): "A Treia Taina/ The Third Sacrament" (1969) [p]
  – Filomena Cabral (Portugal, 1944): "Tarde de mais Mariana" (1985)
  – Suzanne Brogger (Denmark, 1944): "Creme Fraiche" (1978)
Women in Post-war Society

- Female writers
  - Daniela Hodrova (Czech, 1946): "Podoboj/- In Both Kinds" (1978)
  - Lyudmila Ulitskaya (Russia, 1946): "Sonechka/ Little Sonya" (1995)
  - Margarita Karapanou (Greece, 1946): "O Ipnovatis/ The Sleepwalker" (1986)
  - Nina Gorlanova (Russia, 1947): "Roman Vospitaniya/ Learning a Lesson" (1996)
  - Rhea Galanaki (Greece, 1947): "O Vios Tou Ismail Ferik Pasa/ Life of Ismail Ferik Pasha" (1989)
  - Annika Idstroem (Finland, 1947): "Pelon Maantiede/ The Geography of Fear" (1995)
  - Florence Anthony/ Ai (USA, 1947): "Vice" (1999) [p]
  - Svetlana Alexiyevich (Russia, 1948): "Enchanted by Death" (1993)
  - Gayl Jones (USA, 1949): "Corregidora" (1975)
Women in Post-war Society

• Female writers
  – Tatyana Tolstaya (Russia, 1951): "Kys/ Slynx" (2000)
  – Zyranna Zateli (Greece, 1951): "With the Strange Name of Ramanthis Erevus Death Arrived Last" (2002)
  – Hilary Mantel (Britain, 1952): "Every Day is Mother's Day" (1985)
  – Alice McDermott (USA, 1953): "Charming Billy" (1998)
  – Carol-Ann Duffy (Britain, 1955): "Standing Female Nude" (1985) [p]
  – Alexandra Marinina (Russia, 1957): "Coincidence of Circumstances" (1992)
Women in Post-war Society

• Female writers
  – Olga Slavnikova (Russia, 1957): "A Dragon-fly the Size of a Dog" (1997)
  – Yasmina Reza (France, 1959): "Conversations Apres un Enterrement/ Conversations after a Burial" (1987) [t]
  – Almudena Grandes (Spain, 1960): "Malena es un Nombre de Tango" (1994)
  – Arundhati Roy (India, 1961): "God of Small Things" (1997)
Women in Post-war Society

• Female artists
  – Lots, but few who are truly major
    • Painting: Frida Kahlo (Mexico, 1910), Hedda Sterne (Romania, 1910)
    • Sculpture: Niki de Saint Phalle (France, 1930)
    • Architecture: Zaha Hadid (Iraq, 1950)
Making it count  Women's representation in political decision-making

Hover your mouse over a category to view more information about women's level of representation in government in that region.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Central and eastern Europe</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>Europe and central Asia</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developed regions</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
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<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Data are UN Women calculated unweighted figures; world figures for shares of women in national parliaments are from the Inter-Parliamentary Union. **Source:** Progress of the World's Women 2011-12, UN Women.

2010
Women in Post-war Society

• 1990-2010
  – The world’s GDP has been growing consistently for almost two decades
  – Most of that growth is due to the female contribution
  – If women went back to living a domestic life only, the world’s economy would enter a recession
  – The economy of the 21st century needs women to be equal to men
  – In the 2008-09 recession 80% of job losses were male (10% male unemployment vs 7.2% female unemployment in mid 2009)
Women in Post-war Society

- 1990-2010
  - Globalization (the “global village”) is a return to the age with no borders/walls/wars in which warriors are less important
  - Globalization is a return to pre-historical “female” society
  - More and more female heads of state
Women in Post-war Society

• A peaceful revolution
  – Female liberation has not required a violent uprising
  – Female liberation came as natural consequence of the evolution of society
  – Just like cooperation and discrimination were ultimately due to economic adaptation, so is female equality in the 21st century
Women in Post-war Society

• Age of Imitation
  – Women entered male domains more than men entered female domains
  – Women changed more than men did
  – Women’s revolution not gender revolution
  – Economic rewards encouraged women to change. Social values discouraged men from changing.
Women in Post-war Society

• Age of Imitation
  – Women moved into fields that used to be predominantly male and abandoned fields that were predominantly female (e.g., 1971: almost one of three women who graduated in the USA studied education down to only about 5% in 2010)
  – “continued devaluation of women's work that motivates women to enter male jobs, but offers little incentive for the reverse” (Paula England, 2010)
Women in Post-war Society

• Age of Imitation
  – Women still missing from leadership levels
  – Tension between the principle of equal opportunity (upward mobility) and the principle of gender essentiality (each gender is better at some skills)
Women in the 21st Century

• A new gender balance
  – A new social class: single women in their 30s
  – A husband who is not the main man of their life
  – Children in late 30s
  – Plummeting birth rates
  – Moving towards higher female than male employment (as manufacturing jobs decline)
  – Lost housewife's skills (paying maids for housewife chores)
  – More sexual experience than men
Women in the 21st Century

• A new gender balance
  – Their children
    • Higher rate of birth defects
    • Lower I.Q.s
    • Parents who are grandparents
    • Busy career-oriented parents
Women in the 21st Century

- Their children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maternal Age</th>
<th>Down syndrome</th>
<th>Any abnormality</th>
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<tr>
<td>15 to 24 years</td>
<td>1/1300</td>
<td>1/500</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 to 29 years</td>
<td>1/1100</td>
<td>1/385</td>
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<tr>
<td>35 years</td>
<td>1/350</td>
<td>1/178</td>
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<tr>
<td>40 years</td>
<td>1/100</td>
<td>1/63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 years</td>
<td>1/25</td>
<td>1/18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Male Liberation

• The pill liberated women
• Microwave ovens, cleaners, etc AND easier sex liberated men who don’t need a wife anymore except to make children
• Viagra the male equivalent of the pill?
Children Liberation

- The emancipation of the young generation parallels the process for women: as women get more independent, kids get more “rebellious” (juvenile delinquent of the 1950s, hippie of the 1960s, punk of the 1970s)
- Decrease in wisdom passed to the young generation, that results in
  - Unhealthy diets (that result in shorter life spans)
  - Asocial manners (that result in smaller social net)
  - Manic depression
Children Liberation

- “Bad diets, bad manners, bad music, bad sex” (Western youth as defined by a young Chinese friend)
Women in the West

• Age of cooperation
• Age of discrimination
• Age of imitation
• Age of …?
Summarizing

• Rating women's freedom and power:
  – Prehistoric times 7?
  – Mesopotamia 5
  – Ancient Egypt 6
  – Ancient India 1
  – Ancient China 4
  – Ancient Greece 2
  – Roman Empire 4
  – Arab Empire 1
  – Medieval Europe 4
  – Renaissance Europe 6
  – Industrial Europe 3
What the world would be like...

• Women on female nature

  – “When women are depressed, they eat or go shopping. Men invade another country. It's a whole different way of thinking.” Elayne Boosler

  – “There is no female Mozart because there is no female Jack the Ripper.” Camille Paglia

  – “If you obey all the rules, you miss all the fun.” (Katherine Hepburn)
What the world would be like...

- Humans and nature
  - Women live in harmony with nature
  - Men conquer it
  - Cooperation and competition
What the world would be like...

• For a study of women
  – Genetic differences (female genome vs male genome)
  – Neural differences (female brain vs male brain)
  – Evolutionary factors (how the environment shaped the different roles of males and females)
  – Cultural history (how woman was depicted in male literature and art, how woman was depicted by female literature and art)
What the world would be like...

• For a study of women
  – Dunbar: men and women spend about the same amount of time gossiping, except that men mostly talk about themselves and women mostly talk about others