

The Role of Women

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An Historical Perspective


“You’ve Come a Long Way, Baby”



But, Baby, have you come far enough?

Women’s Relation to Men

“ . . . when children cease to be altogether desirable, women cease to be altogether necessary.”  
(John Langdon-Davies, 1897-1971)



Women’s Relation to Men


“If a woman grows weary and at last dies from childbearing, it matters not. Let her only die from bearing; she is there to do it.” ( Martin Luther)

Women’s Relation to Men

“ just as the female ant, after fecundation, loses her wings, which are then superfluous, nay, actually a danger to the business of breeding; so after giving birth to one or two children, a woman generally loses her beauty; probably indeed, for similar reasons.” (A. Schopenhaur, *Of Women*, 1860)

Women’s Relation to Men

“God’s universal law/  
Gave to the man  
despotic power/  
Over his female in  
due awe,/ Not from  
that right to part an  
hour,/ Smile she or  
lour.” (Milton)



## Women's Relation to Men

"That woman is by nature meant to obey may be seen by the fact that every woman who is placed in the unnatural position of complete independence, immediately attaches herself to some man, by whom she allows herself to be guided and ruled: It is because she needs a lord and master. If she is young, it will be a lover; if she is old, a priest." (Schopenhaur)

## Women's Relation to Men

A woman speaks: "What thou bidst/  
Unargued I obey; so God  
ordains;/ God is thy law, thou  
mine; to know no more/ Is  
woman's happiest knowledge and  
her praise." (Milton, *Paradise Lost*)

## Women's Relation to Men

"Woman has so much cause of shame; in woman there is so much pedantry, superficiality, schoolmasterliness, petty presumption, unbridledness and indiscretion concealed . . . which has really been best restrained and dominated hitherto by the *fear* of men." (Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*)

## Women's Relation to Men

- "Man shall be trained for war and woman for the recreation of the warrior. All else is folly."
- "Thou goest to woman? Do not forget thy whip." (Nietzsche, Thus Spake Zarathustra)

## Women's Relation to Men

"The nobler and more perfect a thing is, the later and slower it is in arriving at maturity. A man reaches the maturity of his reasoning powers and mental faculties hardly before the age of twenty-eight; a woman at eighteen. And then, too, in the case of woman, it is only reason of a sort--very niggard in its dimensions. That is why women remain children their whole life long; . . ."

(Schopenhaur)

## Women's Relation to Men

"It is only the man whose intellect is clouded by his sexual impulses that could give the name of *the fair sex* to that under-sized, narrow-shouldered, broad-hipped, and short-legged race; for the whole beauty of the sex is bound up with this impulse. Instead of calling them beautiful, there would be more warrant for describing women as the unaesthetic sex."

(Schopenhaur, 1860)

## Women's Relation to Men

*'Every daughter ought to be of the same religion as her mother, and every wife to be of the same religion as her husband: for, though such religion should be false, that docility which induces the mother and daughter to submit to the order of nature, takes away, in the sight of God, the criminality of their error.'* As 'they are not in a capacity to judge for themselves, they ought to abide by the decision of their fathers and husbands as confidently as by that of the church.' (Rousseau, *Emile*)

## Women's Relation to Men

"I replied that the root of masculine is stronger, and of feminine weaker. The sun is a governing planet to certain planets, while the moon borrows her light from the sun, and is less or weaker." (Joseph Smith, *Hist. of the Church*, Vol. V, p. 211)

## Women and Education

"Woman and man were made for each other, but their mutual dependence is not the same. The men depend on the women only on account of their desires; the women on the men both on account of their desires and their necessities: we could subsist better without them than they without us. . . . Thus the whole education of women ought to be relative to men. To please them, to be useful to them, to make themselves loved and honored by them, to educate them when young, to care for them when grown, to counsel them, console them, and make life sweet and agreeable to them--these are the duties of a woman at all times and what should be taught them from infancy." (Rousseau, *Emile*, 263)

## Women and Education

"In the most intelligent races, there are a large number of women whose brains are closer in size to those of gorillas than to the most developed male brains. . . . [W]omen represent the most inferior forms of human evolution and they are closer to children and savages than to an adult, civilized man." (LeBon, a founder of social psychology, 1879)

## Women and Education

"It is much more difficult for wives to learn than it is for husbands, because women have not the degree of light and knowledge that their husbands have."  
(Lorenzo Snow, Conference address, JD 5:315-16)

## Women's Relation to Men

True there is a curse upon the woman that is not upon the man, namely, that "her whole affections shall be toward her husband," and what is next? "He shall rule over you." . . . I will not hear any more of this whining. (Brigham Young, JD 4:57)

## Women's Relation to Men

Women are made to be led, and counseled, and directed. . . . And if I am not a good man, I have no just right in this Church to a wife or wives, or the power to propagate my species. What then should be done with me? Make a eunuch of me, and stop my propagation. (Heber C. Kimball, JD 5:29)

## A wife's relation to her husband

"A wife is to submit graciously to the servant leadership of her husband, even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ." (An amendment to the Southern Baptist Convention's (15.7 million members) Faith and Message Statement, passed at the national convention in Salt Lake City, Summer 1998)

"The conduct and manners of women, in fact, evidently prove that their minds are not in a healthy state; for, like the flowers which are planted in too rich a soil, strength and usefulness are sacrificed to beauty; and the flaunting leaves, after having pleased a fastidious eye, fade, disregarded on the stalk, long before the season when they ought to have arrived at maturity. One cause of this barren blooming I attribute to a false system of education, gathered from the books written on this subject by men who, considering females rather as women than human creatures, have been more anxious to make them alluring mistresses than affectionate wives and rational mothers; and the understanding of the sex has been so bubbled by this specious homage, that the civilised women of the present century, with a few exceptions, are only anxious to inspire love, when they ought to cherish a nobler ambition, and by their abilities and virtues exact respect" (Godwin, Mary Wollstonecraft. A Vindication of the Rights of Woman. 1792).

## Women and Business

"Women are simply not endowed by nature with the same measures of single-minded ambition and the will to succeed in the fiercely competitive world of Western capitalism.... The momma bird builds the nest. So it was, so it ever shall be. Ronald Reagan is not responsible for this. God is." (Pat Buchanan, Republican Cand. for Pres., qtd. in Glass, S. "Pat Speaks." The New Republic 18 Mar. 1996.)

## Women and Education

You need only look at the way in which she is formed, to see that woman is not meant to undergo great labor, whether of the mind or of the body. She pays the debt of life not by what she does, but by what she suffers; by the pains of childbearing and care for the child, and by submission to her husband . . . . (Schopenhaur)

## Women and Education

"Mr. Hopkins, the governor of Hartford upon Connecticut, brought his wife with him . . . who was fallen into a sad infirmity, the loss of her understanding and reason, which had been growing upon her divers years, by occasion of her giving herself wholly to reading and writing, and had written many books. . . if she had attended her household affairs and such things as belong to women, and not gone out of her way and calling to meddle in such things as are proper for men, whose minds are stronger, etc., she had kept her wits and might have improved them usefully and honorably in the place God had set her . . . ." (J. Winthrop)

## Women and Education

"I have an aversion, a pity and contempt for all female scribblers. The needle, not the pen, is the instrument they should handle, and the only one they ever use dexterously." (A religious leader, qtd. in Maugham, Somerset. The World's Ten Greatest Novels, p. 76)



Virginia Woolf

## Women and Education

"Among university students, 'the best woman was intellectually the inferior of the worst man.'" (Oscar Browning, 1837-1923, English writer on history and education)

## Women and Education

"When woman inclines to learning, there is usually something wrong with her sex apparatus." (Nietzsche)

## Women's Relation to Husbands

[Katherine (the former shrew) speaks:] "Such duty as the subject owes the prince, Even such a woman oweth to her husband; And, when she's froward, peevish, sullen, sour, And not obedient to his honest will, What is she, but a contending rebel, And graceless traitor to her loving lord?" (William Shakespeare\_Taming of the Shrew, A. 5, S. 2.)

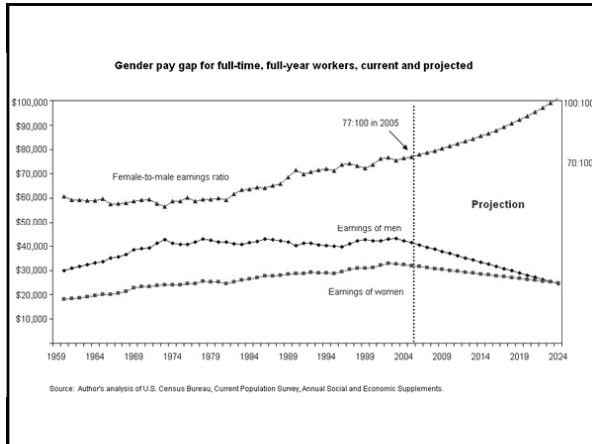
## That was then; this is now--right?

- Women can work in almost any profession.
- Women now constitute about 50% of the studentbody at most colleges.
- Women earn about 48% of Master's Degrees
- Women can vote.
- Women can own property.
- Women can get credit on their own.

Have we come far enough?

## Mary Wollstonecraft—A Vindication of the Rights of Woman—1792

"It would be an endless task to trace the variety of meannesses, cares, and sorrows, into which women are plunged by the prevailing opinion, that they were created rather to feel than reason, and that all the power they obtain, must be obtained by their charms and weakness."



## Have We Arrived, Baby?

- Fifty two percent of spousal killings are done by men; forty eight percent by women; however, prison terms for killing husbands is twice as long as for killing wives.
- Five percent of cancer research money is spent on breast cancer, the most common form of cancer in American women.
- Women news anchors are paid 23% less than men anchors.
- For the movie, *Frankie and Johnny*, Al Pacino was paid 6 million, Michelle Pfeiffer got 3 million.

## A New Perspective

- "There are some men who, in a spirit of arrogance, think they are superior to women. They do not seem to realize that they would not exist but for the mother who gave them birth. When they assert their superiority they demean her. It has been said, 'Man can not degrade woman without himself falling into degradation; he can not elevate her without at the same time elevating himself'" (Alexander Walker, in *Elbert Hubbard's Scrap Book* [1923], 204. Qtd. by G.B. Hinckley Oct. 2004.).

## A New Perspective

- "Every woman is a daughter of God. You cannot offend her without offending Him. I plead with the men of this Church to look for and nurture the divinity that lies within their companions. To the degree that happens, there will be harmony, peace, enrichment of family life, nurturing love." (President Gordon B. Hinckley, October Conf., Oct. 2004)

## The Economic Status of Women

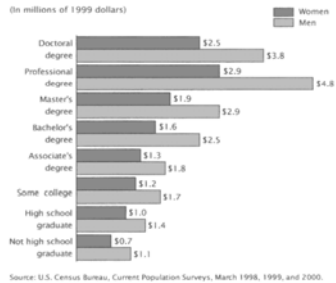
Occupations—90% male	Occupations—90% female
Engineers, dentists, pilots, firefighters, electronic repairers, electricians, plumbers, machinists, plant/systems operators	Child care workers, Correspondence clerks, dental hygienists, receptionists, pre-school workers, kindergarten teachers, cleaners and servants, dieticians, payroll clerks, RN's, secretaries

## The Economic Status of Women

Male Physicians	Female Physicians
\$137,000/year	\$83,000/year (60 cents on the dollar)
Corporate Execs—Male	Corporate Execs—Female
\$765,000	\$518,596 ((68 cents on the dollar)

## The Economic Status of Women

Figure 6.  
Synthetic Work-Life Earnings Estimates for Full-Time, Year-Round Workers by Sex and Educational Attainment Based on 1997-1999 Work Experience



## The Economic Status of Women

Figure 5.  
Women's Earnings Relative to Men's by Age and Educational Attainment: 1997-1999



## The Economic Status of Women

Men		Women	
Av. Lifetime yearly salary	Av. Lifetime increase	Av. Lifetime yearly salary	Av. Lifetime increase
H.S. 32,024		H.S. 19,156	
B.S. 56,779	990,200	B.S. 32,816	546,400
M.S.+ 67,202	1,407,120	M.S.+41,270	884,560
Return on each day getting a B. S. (about 720 days) \$1375		Return on each day getting a B.S. (about 720 days) \$759 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Surveys, 1998,1999,2000)	

## Progress Update

- In 1963, when Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act, women earned 58 cents for every dollar earned by a man in the same type of job.
- In 1999, 36 years later, a woman gets about 76 cents
- In 1998, the EEOC received about 6,200 wage-discrimination complaints
- In the past three years, Home Depot had to pay \$87.5 million in fines to female workers who had suffered wage discrimination; Publix, a Florida-based supermarket chain paid \$81.5 million.

## Progress Update

In 2004-05, 43% of bachelor's degrees were earned by men at Title IV colleges; 57% were earned by women.

"About one third of women ages 25-29 had a bachelor's degree or higher in 2007, compared with 26% of their male peers, according to tables recently released by the U.S. Census Bureau." (Yin, Sandra. Population Reference Bureau, Feb. 2008)

Master's		Doctor's		Professional	
1970	2001	1970	2001	1970	2001
40%	59%	13%	45%	N/A	46%

## Women's Status in the Future: Have We Come Far Enough?

- Why are there such economic differences?
  - Are they self chosen?
  - Are they acceptable
- What can we expect from the future?
  - What can we do individually to make a difference?
    - Men?
    - Women?