

**Eddie Jackson**

Prior Knowledge Check – “questionnaire” on women’s history. Answer these 5 Short answer questions!

Address the following questions using complete sentences. Give at least 1 short paragraph for each question (5 sentences).

- What comes to mind when you think about the history of American Women?

When I think of women's history, I think of constant battles. I think of consistent oppression. And, the worst part, there seems to be even more historical disparity between the genders than I even know about. From the very beginning, during the colonial period, women were treated like cattle. Sometimes the cattle were worth more than the woman. So, what comes to mind when I think of women’s history? We still have a long ways to go when it comes to equality.

- Do you have any previous knowledge about the topics covered in this course? Why/why not? And if so – which ones?

I have zero knowledge in women's studies or the history of American women. Of course, household names like Rosa Parks come to mind. Just historically, my knowledge is pretty limited. I do know about current affairs though, where women rights concerning birth control, abortion, and the inequality in the work place are in the news almost daily. My own personal views are that we keep resisting equality in this country, and I don’t know why.

- What insights do you think you will gain from studying American Women?

I hope to build a decent knowledge base, just in general. I would like to learn more about women in the far past, the recent past, and of course leading up to current times. The reason I would like this information is because I do like history in general, though most of it thus far has been presidential history. I am looking forward to the journey ahead.

- How do you think you might be able to apply the knowledge you gain in this course to your personal and professional life?

I would definitely apply this to my personal life, the real reason I am in school. I spend a lot of

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time online, as well as in my community, seeking to level the playing field for many people; whether they are poor, or perhaps in this case, whether they are women who deserve equality. Hopefully this class will help me understand why America seems to be dragging up the rear when it comes to equality amongst developed countries.

- Review the interactive timeline. What events/people are you most interested in learning about? Why?

I like Rosie the Riveter. One, because she was a historical icon. Two, it represents a particular important time in American history where our nation came together to fight a global evil.

The second is the New Woman. I like this one because it represents a range of time where women began breaking the boundaries that had been imposed upon them for so long. For example, the 19th Amendment which allowed women to vote (1920); this was just the beginning as women started to become interested consumerism and materialism.

After answering the questions, save your response and submit to the dropbox for grading as instructed. This grade is effort based! A strong response will earn you full points.