

CHAPTER 7 SECTION 4

Women in the
late 1800's

THE “WOMAN QUESTION”

- What role should women have in society?
- Should they have the same rights as men?



WHAT WOMEN WANTED

- To be able to vote.
- To control their own property and income.
- To have access to higher education and professional jobs.



NOT SO FAST

- Some argued that allowing women economic and political power would upset the social order and women would lose their femininity.



LA BELLE DAME SANS "MERCII."

EASIER WORK AND FREE TIME

- Women's work in the home was made easier by new inventions.
- Electric machines. (washing machine)
- Store bought clothing. (rather than making own)
- Food in tin cans and pre-prepared. (rather than making own or butchering and preserving own meat)



DEPARTMENT STORES

- Stores that carried a wide variety of goods at lower prices than smaller shops or general stores. (Like Wal-Mart or BJ's – Buy in bulk and is cheaper)
- Macy's (In NY - 1858)
- Marshall Field
(In Chicago – 1865)



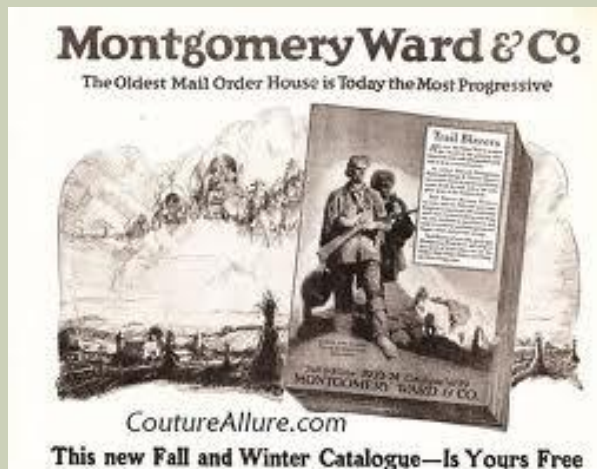
RURAL FREE DELIVERY

- Free shipping on big-city goods all over small town America.



MAIL-ORDER CATALOGS

- Printed materials advertising a wide range of goods you can purchase through the mail. (Sears, Roebuck and Company, Montgomery Ward)
- Like ordering online today. (Amazon or E-Bay)



WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE

- 1 in 8 workers were women in the late 1800's
- Mostly single.
- Assumed they would leave when married. (So never promoted)
- Earned 30% to 60% less than men.



DOMESTIC WORK

- 1 in 5 homes employed live-in servants.
- Mostly immigrants or African-American.
- Dawn to Dusk 6 and ½ days per week.
- Cooked, cleaned, and cared for kids.
- Many had their own families living elsewhere.



STEREOTYPE OF WOMEN

- In the late 1800's American society believed that women were not mentally able to learn or hold a professional job. (They would become sick or "go crazy" if they tried to)



WOMEN'S JOBS

- Only jobs available to women were ones that didn't put them in competition with men. (Mostly in women's colleges and hospitals)
- Only single women worked. ("Careers and Married Life" did not go together)



WOMEN'S CLUBS

- Many joined for intellectual and social reasons.
- Gave them experience in speaking and writing.
- Increased their self-confidence.



SOCIAL CHANGES

- Many women's clubs worked on issues like suffrage (The right to vote) and prohibition.



CHANGING STYLES

- Women's hairstyles became shorter. (For convenience)
- Shortened skirts and got rid of corsets. (For more comfort)



DATING AND MARRIAGE CUSTOMS

- Began to go out on unsupervised dates. (without a chaperone)
- Women in unfulfilling marriages sometimes divorced. (Up from 1 in 12 to 1 in 9 – 1 in 2 today!)



ASSIGNMENT

- Write a 1 paged letter from a woman in the late 1800's explaining what her daily life is like and how it has changed in recent years. Include 5 Facts from your notes and number or underline them!

WHAT I'M CHECKING

- **Chapter 7 Sections 1-4 Questions**
- **American Values Poster**
- **Newspaper Headline – 3 articles**
- **Chapter 7 Sect. 4 Woman Essay**