

Carla Harewood

Professor Lyndell O'Hara

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### Chapter 18: Film & Response

Three of the most important “takeaways” of the Enlightenment are picking up on social order, promoting middle-class values, and encouraging thinking for oneself in fashion all the way through to learning new things. Social order was essential and also what I consider an excellent look for those Europeans who traveled across Asia because it allowed them to see how other cultures interacted with one another and solved issues. Being less argumentative seems like something most people would not want to be classified as, but Europeans overall were “feisty.” A hierarchy wasn’t always based on social order, and more people could be judged by their skills and talents. Promoting middle-class values allowed society also to respect hard work, practicality, and domesticity within women. The new movement of Enlightenment Salons allowed wealthy women to host get-togethers in their homes where they could learn about the latest philosophies, books, and ideas. By increasing society’s knowledge, they also were encouraged to rethink their choices of fashion and place reason over religion.

I believe these ideas illustrate the changing tenets of this time because we are also a society forced to reconstruct our ideas through social influencers (just like the philosophers of the Enlightenment period) when our government would fail us. Injustices cause us to push agendas that bring our communities together to help bring our form of individual reasoning, such as Emmanuel Kant’s period. Just as in the Enlightenment period, advocating for individuals to work in places where they can be harmonious and prosper due to free trade leads to a balanced society.