

Pedro Costa Silva

Professor Turk

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From *The Wives of England* (Sarah Stickney Ellis, 1843)

1. Elli's advice on proper female behavior is heavily influenced by the class she belongs to in society. Being a member of the upper class, she expects women to behave in a way that is aligned with the values and norms of her social class. She emphasizes the importance of modesty, obedience, and respect for authority figures, particularly men. The values underlying Elli's writing are based on roles, including the belief that women's primary role is to support their husbands and families, rather than pursuing their own careers or interests. Elli also supports traditional gender roles, where men are the primary providers, and women are responsible for domestic duties and childcare. Overall, the underlying values behind Elli's writing emphasize social hierarchy and conformity to traditional gender roles. She believes that proper female behavior involves conforming to the expectations of the upper-class society she belongs to, rather than challenging or subverting those expectations.

2. The passage does not present an argument favoring female empowerment (as we understand it in the modern world- although highly debatable). Instead, it describes Elli's perspective on proper female behavior, which emphasizes conforming to traditional gender roles and societal expectations -especially those of the upper-class society she belongs to. The passage implies that Sarah thinks women should prioritize supporting their husbands and families, instead pursuing

their own careers and dreams. It suggests that Elli favors traditional gender roles, where men are the primary providers, and women are responsible for household duties and taking care of the children. Essentially, this passage does not support the idea of female empowerment or women having more power in society. Instead, it portrays a traditional view of gender roles and emphasizes conformity to societal expectations. While the text offers advice to women on how to behave in a manner deemed appropriate by society, this does not equate to promoting female power or agency. The text's emphasis on modesty, obedience, and respect for authority figures, particularly men, reinforces the traditional gender hierarchy, where men are viewed as the superior gender, and women are expected to defer to them. The argument could be made that women are empowered by taking over what their power is (femininity); essentially owning it. In that sense, this text could be used to say that it is empowering to women of that time period.