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World Civilizations II

20th of February, 2023

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

1. Elli thinks that how women should behave depends on their social class. Because she is from the upper class, she thinks women should act in a way that follows the rules and customs of that group. She says that it's important for women to be humble, do what they are told, and respect people who have power, especially men. Elli thinks that women should focus on supporting their husbands and families instead of having their own jobs or hobbies. She also believes that men should be the ones who make the most money, while women take care of the home and children. Overall, Elli thinks that women should follow the social rules of their upper-class group and not try to change them.

2. The passage does not advocate for women's empowerment in the modern sense, which is a subject of much debate. Instead, it presents Elli's beliefs about proper female behavior, which emphasize conforming to traditional gender roles and societal expectations, particularly those of the upper-class society she belongs to. The passage implies that Sarah thinks women should prioritize supporting their husbands and families rather than pursuing their own careers and aspirations. Elli favors traditional gender roles where men are the primary providers, and women

are responsible for household duties and childcare. The passage does not support the idea of female empowerment or women having more power in society. Rather, it promotes a traditional view of gender roles and emphasizes conformity to societal expectations. The text offers guidance to women on how to behave in a manner considered appropriate by society, but this does not necessarily translate to promoting female power or agency. The emphasis on modesty, obedience, and respect for authority figures, especially men, reinforces the traditional gender hierarchy where men are seen as superior, and women are expected to defer to them. However, one could argue that women are empowered by taking ownership of their power, i.e., their femininity, and in that sense, this text could be viewed as empowering to women of that time period.