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History 6395: Readings in Modern France
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Papers need a title

TITLE: FINAL PAPER: THE ROLES OF FRENCH WOMEN WITHIN POLITICS, SOCIETY AND FAMILY DURING THE 1760s-1790s

INTRODUCTION

Early historians of the French Revolution focused on politics, society and origins of the intellectual revolution.

The 1st sentence introduced the place, event, and topics that will be discussed in the paper. The Time Period will need to be identified in the 1st or 2nd sentence.

King Louis XIV and the Revolution. Only recently have scholars analyzed the political images

of French women and their domestic roles during the Revolutionary Era. Samia Spencer in

French Women and the Age of Enlightenment, argued that not enough studies focused on French

women during the Revolution. She believed that “one area, however, [had] not received the full

attention it deserves: the contributions of eighteenth-century French women to the history and

thought of their time.”¹ On the other hand, historians written modern studies in the 1970s, 1980s

and 1990s explored women participation in French politics, society and private sphere. Joan

Lacouture, Jacques

R

Revolution, Edmond and Jules De Goncourt, Dorinda Outram, Olwen Hulfon, Lynn Hunt, Sara

Melzer, Leslie Rabine, and Shirley Roessler focused on women’s participation within public and

private spheres. In this historiographical essay, I will examine studies of the political and family

roles of French women during the 1760s-1790s.

Sources will need to be introduced and identified as shown above. Sources are formatted in italic and full name of author needs to be identified.

¹ Spencer, Samia I., *French Women and the Age of Enlightenment* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1985) pg. ix.

Main thesis can be simple and must contain your main subjects.

FIRST TOPIC- POLITICS

FRENCH WOMEN AND POLITICS

1st sentence introduces the body paragraph

Scholars studied the Enlightenment theories, civil liberties and political organizations of French women. Schwartz examined Rousseau wrote books on women's influence

Quote must support the statements before and after. Quotes will be numbered at the end of each sentence and in the footnote.

Discourse in 1751, he argued that women were good innovators of society. "Women could in the future lead to that "purification of morals" so manifestly not accomplished by "the restoration of the arts and sciences."² Also, Rousseau believed that women were educators of men.

Therefore, he recommended that women be reeducated in order to educate men in modern societies. According to Schwartz, contemporary scholars have criticized Rousseau for his theories of female-male mutual dependency. Rousseau argued that women depend more on men for

that "men were physical stronger and can protect themselves" and that "women, by contrast, do need men, because they are too weak in civilized society."³

Schwartz argued that Rousseau's purpose "in doing so is to make men and women understand themselves as social beings who are necessarily dependent on others, so as to lead them to act less selfishly as members of society."⁴ Schwartz analyzed Rousseau's theories of politics and French citizenship. Rousseau used the Roman

Footnotes are at the end of each page and source is identified along with page number.

² Schwartz, Joel, *The Sexual Politics of Jean-Jacques Rousseau* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1985) pg. 5.