

WGS. 101 SESSION #4 OUTLINE

1. Seneca Falls, “The Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions” and the Concept of a Gender System: Challenging the Boundaries of Public and Private, Personal and Political; Prefigurative and Pragmatic Politics; The Vote/Suffrage: Gateway Issue
2. The Concept of Everyday Justice/Everyday Courage: Beyond “Winter Wheat” (Elizabeth Cady Stanton) - Dynamics of Power and Authority
3. Everyday Justice/Prefigurative Politics and the 19th Century American Women’s Rights Movement:
Influence of Religion, Female Reform Movements, Abolitionism, Transcendentalism and Utopian Communities, Alternative Health Movement
 - a. Beyond “Civil Death”: Marriage Reform—Symbolizing Movement from Bondage to Contract-
Abolitionist and Women’s Rights Movements
Stone/Blackwell Marriage Agreement (1855): Rewriting the Dominant Script
Alternative Marriage Ceremonies as Personal/Political Events/Gender Performances; Henry W. Higginson as a “Woman’s Rights Man”
Writing Exercise/Discussion: The Contemporary Name Change Question
 - b. Dress Reform – “Our Costume” (Elizabeth Cady Stanton, 1851)
Backlash to the Women’s Rights Movement: 1850s and Beyond
 - c. Women’s Rights and Individualism: “The Solitude of Self” (1892)
4. Legal Cases and Everyday Justice Principles (e.g., Hester Vaughn case)
5. Oral Presentation Two Handouts

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