

Feminism, Pro-Natalism and the Politics of the Family

Protesting the Centennial of the Napoleonic Code 1904 and French Medal for Mothers Decree, 1920, Nellie Roussel

How would you characterize Nelly Roussel's feminism in terms of the "individual"/ "familial" distinction? What are the key arguments that she uses to plead in favor of giving women equal legal rights?

Regulating Abortion and Birth Control: Gender, Medicine and Republican Politics in France, Jean Elisabeth Pendersen

Why was abortion so deplored by French politicians of a wide variety of political orientations in 1920? How do their arguments compare to those of contemporary anti-abortion activists in the United States?

What is the significance of the fact that condoms were the only form of birth control not outlawed in 1920? Why do you think that the legislators made this choice?