

THINK QUESTIONS:

ACCAMPO

Why, according to Accampo, were women (more so than men) “easy targets” for incursion into private life” ?

Accampo asserts that a shared assumption of the authors is that gender is a social construct whose meaning constantly fluctuates. What does it mean to say that gender is a social construct? Can you think of examples, based on your own knowledge of history and different societies around the world of how the meaning of gender “constantly fluctuates?”?

What does it mean today to say you are a feminist? What might someone mean if they say they are anti-feminist? How would that be different from what someone mean by that 100 years ago?

McMILLAN

What assumption about Catholics and anti-clericals is McMillan writing against? Why might one initially assume that the anti-clericals were more “feminist” than the Catholics?

Why do you think that the Conservative League Patriotique had five times as many members as the feminist Conseil National des Femmes Francaises?

Explanation of Boulanger Affair:

(General Boulanger was a wildly popular demagogic general who had the support of royalists and other conservatives, there was talk of him leading a coup d'etat in 1889, but he lost his nerve and the coup never happened. The incident helped to coalesce a new kind of right in France, based on the idea that you have to have the support of the masses, rather than just the elite)

Why did Leon Richer think it was dangerous to give women the vote? What do you think of his argument?