

Matriarchal society and patriarchal society essay



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The story is narrated by the narrator Leslie Marmon Silko. Silko was a Native American poet, story writer whose work is mainly focused over the relations, religions and cultural societies. The story is based upon a woman who belongs to Pueblo and she is out with a stranger outside her pueblo. The stranger was Silva who seduces her and told her that he is ka'tsina spirit and he keeps on calling her yellow woman. The narrator enjoys Silva's company, he is found out to be a cattle rustler and or possibly a murderer.

The people of Pueblo used to believe in a myth that Ka'tsina is a spirit who used to abduct women and later return it back to the village. The word yellow woman realizes her about her Grandfather who use tell her stories about Ka'tsina and Yellow women, but as now her grandpa is no more so she is worried about the excuse he would be making once she gets back home. She thought to herself that she will tell her husband that she was being kidnapped by Navajo. The whole story shows the contrast of life in the matriarchal society of America and Patriarchal society of America.

Matriarchal society means the society in which the mothers play a central role in the whole social culture. In this kind of society women used to hold the responsibilities and all leadership roles. The patriarchal society is the one in which father plays the central role in the life of wife and children. He is the one who has all privileges to make decisions in the organization. In South America it shows some hints of existence of historical societies like matriarchal.

The author gives the difference between the thoughts and notions of these two societies. If the instance like this would have happened in patriarchal

society that the women was out from home for the whole night, then she would have been questioned and if found out that she had sex with outside person even when she had a husband then she might have been discarded from the society, children would have been taken away from her. She would have been taken down as almost curse and embarrassment to the family.

If the same thing a man does in the patriarchal society that is having an outside affair, than he might get waived off, and sometime not even questioned that much only because he is a man. That what it shows the difference in matriarchal social culture, that all the benefits and privileges which a man gets in patriarchal society is endowed by the women in the matriarchal society. She can do whatever she wants and would not be questioned as she is the leader of the house and she decides what has to be done in the whole family.

One more difference which the author gets into light is that in matriarchal society the women doesn't change her last name to her husband name but it is husband who changes his name to his woman's last name. The whole story was based on the yellow women and the silva(Mysterious man), who took the woman away from her village and have fun with her and leave her back near the river to let her go home, same way as it used to be in the myths carried in matriarchal social culture.