

# The american jezebel by eve laplante essay



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The American Jezebel by Eve LaPlante      Their is apoint in the history of mankind where the importance given to men and women were unequal with the former getting more than the latter. Dating hundreds of years back in the era of Puritan colonialization in United States, women are regarded as mere accessories of the society, which only portrays minimal and often inconsequential roles and participations in the formation society. Anne Hutchinson, as one of the many American women who have lived during the era of Puritan colonial in America, is regarded as one of the many bigger names in the history, who works really hard to strengthen and instigate the equal role of women in the society. Discussing and highlighting the lives and difficulties of American women, back in the days of Puritan domination, this essay will critically review and analyze the book entitled “ American Jezebel,” written by Eve LaPlante.      A widely renowned brilliant masterpiece and an award-winning best non-fiction book in the year 2004, the “ American Jezebel” mainly tells about the narrative of a significant feminist advocate. Eve LaPlante, as a well respected and multi-awarded author/writer, has done a great job in presenting a clear and infromative biography of Anne Hutchinson, as an ordinary woman and feminist in the years of Puritan colonial in the U.

S. More so, giving a colorful account and lively presentation on the existence of Anne Hutchinson, as an icon in the American feminist history, mirrors the genuine features of Eve Laplante’s work, as an excellent and awarded non-fictional book.      The main focus of the book revolves around the life of Hutchinson, which is seen to be among the figures from where the ideals of equality among people in the society may be attributed to. The author

narrates the life of Hutchinson from her childhood days and her personal life until the time of her advocacy and defiance of the Puritans. Hutchinson is presented as the person who held the charm and power to go against the Puritans and proved to be a threat for them. She later founded the Rhode Island and established a good reputation as a woman.

The author uses the specific experiences of Hutchinson in order to present a larger and more important dilemma in the society. It has been shown that women, during the period where Hutchinson existed, did not receive equal treatment with that of men as they are seen to occupy roles which are perceived to be of lower value than that of men. However, there is one person who, without any special position in the society, is able to defy the Puritans and threaten their very existence.

Bias in terms of the approach of the author could stem from the fact that the book was written by a direct descendant of Hutchinson. While there is accuracy in terms of the events in the life of Hutchinson, the parts highlighted could be of great importance to the author for it to be the ones written in the book. Weakness is a component of a person's character but this is not shown in the book. The failures and the weaknesses in the personality of the character, together with the mistakes of judgment that led to important events, could have been included in order to show a better picture of the role that Hutchinson played in the society.

The idea of portraying only the oppression of women during that time could also serve as a bias where it is only the plight of the women which is considered by the author. There are no explanations as to why this is the

case in the society. There are no answers given to the question of why this has become the case. It could be that this is a choice of women or biological and psychological explanations which would shy away from the political agenda which is made apparent in the book.

Only one experience is considered to produce a picture for the relationship of men with that of women. It could have been expanded in order to show the thoughts of women and the condition and status of a larger population of women.

This biography made by LaPlante is considered to be among the attempts to place Hutchinson among the list of early feminists (Kirkus Reviews 1). This is not the first and sole document written on the life of Anne Hutchinson but the fact that LaPlante is among the direct descendants of the subject of the book provides it the balance and another perspective different from the political ones that have been provided in the past. It provides a different way of viewing the advocacy of Hutchinson by giving background information regarding the personal life of the person. The personal experiences, especially with that of the earlier parts of the life, contribute to the understanding of the present situation which the person chose to be in. The decisions of Hutchinson is now justified through the personal events in her life that only the family can be given credence as they are the ones who are aware of personal matters, which even public figures are entitled to.

The approach of the biography is written in favor of Hutchinson such that it shows the important roles she took in the society.

It is in favor to Hutchinson in such a way that it does not only praise the person but allows for her efforts to be known and preserved in books. In a world where there are constant changes in almost every aspect of the

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society, it is easy to forget the efforts of one person who took a valuable role. It is in this aspect that LaPlante became sympathetic of Hutchinson and ensured that she would not be forgotten by people in her political advocacies and personal doings. Indeed, there are far more people than one who did their best and exerted their efforts in order for people to gain equal rights. However, they have remained faceless in the history unlike Hutchinson who stood out. Every single detail, as justified by the comprehensiveness of the author's account of Hutchinson's life, is known and recorded to last for far more years than the existence of the person.

True enough, the memories and efforts of Hutchinson remains to date despite the centuries that have passed. There is no argument to the fact that Hutchinson is an evidence of how there should be equal rights among gender and the fact that she was able to do this even if it requires going against an institution. This fact remains true nowadays where people have proven themselves to be courageous enough to deal with the limitations provided by certain institutions. They have been successful in times when what they are fighting for is right and upholds the rights of a greater part of the society. Hutchinson can be considered as a good example of this and can serve as a lesson learned for the different sectors today.

The importance of Hutchinson could never be discounted and the impact of it is still felt until today. Indeed, the biography of Hutchinson proves to be a reading of great worth. It provides aspects of the personal life of the person and relates this to the later events in the existence of the individual. In doing so, a deeper understanding of why and how the person has come

into being is given. There are several larger things that can be learned from this biography.

First, it is worthy to go against the giants if a person stands on stable and rational grounds. The benefit of the people really plays a greater role in advocacies. Second, women and men are of equal footing and should remain the same in whatever situation they may face. Both are to be considered equal and this goes the same with opportunities.

The worth of the women has been proven by the gigantic steps and courageous deeds done by women in the past. Work Cited Kirkus Reviews. AMERICAN JEZEBEL: The Uncommon Life of Anne Hutchinson, the Woman who Defied the Puritans (Book) 71 (2003): 1.;