

# GWS 100AC

## Women and the Frontier

April 7, 2016

**Attendance quiz: Seattle, 1926**

### Settler Colonialism

- The objective of acquiring land and gaining control of resources, settler colonists had to eliminate the indigenous people. Logic of elimination.
- Modernist property regimes that transform land and resources and people into things that can be owned. - Glenn
- Citizenship determined by ownership of private property
- “I’m not repeating myself. I’m repeating myself with displacement.” –BB Barnes
- Jeffersonian ideas: enabling independence + John Locke
- Locke: central institution of civilization was private property. Mean improving land through labor and farming.
- Independence requires owning property.
- These notions were very much filtered through race and gender.
- Universal citizens (white men) were seen as most capable of independence.
- White masculinity takes a central role in establishing who is able to be a free citizen.
- Important thing: In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, popular ideas about race are being put forward by men in Europe that assume white supremacy.
- Racial progress means civilizational progress.
- Savagery -|———|———|———→ Civilization  
· African Asian Caucasian
- Victorian ”cult of domesticity”

- Women are seen as property.
- State determines who you can marry by gender and race.
- The right to marry carries a lot of weight: determines citizenship, social privilege, legitimacy for children, and rights.

### **Donation Land Act**

- Meant to encourage migration to Oregon territory. Revised to only apply to white men and women.
- Women could only receive their allotment through a man by this act and gave the man an extra allotment of land.
- Increased shrubs.

### **Dawes Act**

- Victorian family ideals did not mesh well with Native Americans.
- Native Americans were taught via total assimilation and isolated from their heritage.
- ASSSIMILATION!
- [Lakota Boys: Before and After](#)
- Everything is filtered through race.

### **Girl Miner Daguerotype**

- Had to be manly, couldn't dance with other women
- Apparently if you wore certain colors you could say you were down for certain things

### **Oregon Territoy**

- Thought they were doing something good for native people in these places.
- Even when people think they're acting in the common good, it's important to think carefully and critically about that.
- Nelson: need multiple perspectives.