Sexual-economics in Charlotte Perkins Gilman (1860–1935)

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In her book Women and Economics Charlotte Perkins Gilman terms the “sexuo-economic relation” to mean the exact opposite of a healthy economic relation. She considers this relation to be an important factor in the evolution of the human species. In the human species, the sexuo-economic relation impeded the development of female members of the human race, rendering their intellectual and moral capacities underdeveloped, while stimulating sexual development in both sexes. Although there was once an advantage to the society by establishing the sexuo-economic relation, it is obsolete now. The result of the unnaturally maintained sexuo-economic relation is the “servant-motherhood” and the overall economic dependence of women upon men, caused by excessive individualism, the sexualization of industrial relations and the commercialization of sexual relations.

Primary Sources:


Secondary Sources:

“Theory of the leisure class” and Charlotte Perkins Gilman's “women and economics” in historical perspective. GRIN Verlag.


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