Woman in America (1841)

Sourcing Question:

* Mrs. A.J.Graves wrote the article “Woman In America”
* It was written in 1841 in New York, USA. Such article was located at Northeastern University.
* Excerpt from a book.

Close Reading Questions:

* The author argued that women should stay home at 1841, to the readers of the book.
* During the antebellum period, women were standing up to the rights frequently to try to support themselves and be independent. Mrs.A.J.Graves saw this movement as going against god.
* The author supported the women should act their role, which was staying home. She also believed that god made a sphere for women centered on children and the family.
* The author argued against the idea that women should be independent. The author also argued against that the women work less efficient outside of the household environment. Women’s role could not be successful other than being the nurse and providing education to the youth.

Contextualization Questions:

* Most of the material in the document is opinionated based. Therefore, the document’s every points/materials is believable in the author’s mind.
* None of the document is unbelievable. The author, Mrs. A.J. Graves only states her opinions that women have a “sphere” in the home and duties to nurture the children on the bias of her religious beliefs. Therefore, everything she says is neither believable nor unbelievable, because it is opinion based.
* Historians can learn from the document that during the Antebellum period in the American South, many people, women included, believed that God literally wanted women to stay within certain limiting boundaries circled around the home. This widespread belief urged women to stay home and restricted them from having equal rights to men.
* The document teaches us that the individual who wrote it, Mrs. A.J. Graves was a victim of internalization. The ideology that women’s place in the home, as dictated by God, was such a widespread societal norm that even women whose very rights are restricted by it began to adhere to it.