Essay Outline

**I. Introductory Paragraph**

**Topic**

The act of telling, and the act of re-telling, or making a certain told story into the canonical one, the canonical story, of being the person who's story is the one being told, all these are elements, maybe even themes, that play a significant part in each modern course in history, and, to a lesser degree, in other curriculums. Rip Van Winkle is a story about storytelling, and about the ability to tell – who gets to tell, what story and/or narrative does he, or she, gets to tell, and all of that gets to be asked, gets to be questioned, maybe even to be criticized, in a story that tells the narrative of a masculine hero, a masculine protagonist, who goes to sleep, unintentionally, for twenty years, twenty years that include the American Revolution.

**Research Question**

Is there a link between (the creation of national) history and gender in "Rip Van Winkle"?

**Thesis**

My thesis in this paper is that the power to tell is reserved to those masculine, male-identified, persons in the story. Being a metaphor, an allegory, a fairy tale with the aim to educate, to influence, I might say that this is a dangerous idea.

**II. Body**

**A. Body Paragraph**

Topic sentence

The story tries to get our empathy for the character of Rip Van Winkle, and away from the character of Dame Van Winkle.

Evidence

"Hen-pecked", "nagging", "tyranny"

**B. Body Paragraph**

Topic sentence

The story revolves around Rip's whereabouts, and, thus, on his story.

Evidence

The name of the story, the bulk of the plot.

**C. Body Paragraph**

Topic sentence

Rip Van Winkle, who went to sleep and came back, is regarded as a chronicler, as a person who knows, who can, and actually do, tell.

Evidence

The ending of the story

**III. Conclusion**

Restatement of thesis

In other words, and in conclusion, the story is about Rip and Rup's adventures, and it tells his story. Being an allegory, this tells us, shows us, a fragment of a gendered history, a history which is 'his-story'.

Other

Thai Divone 316084342