

**Lesson Three****Worksheet 1****Discussion Questions for the Adams Correspondence**

Questions for the first letter from Abigail:

1. Does Abigail sound eager for American independence?
2. What does she expect independence will require?
3. What does she hope will happen when independence is declared?
4. What is the meaning of "Remember the Ladies?"
5. Why does she accuse her husband's ancestors of being ungenerous?
6. What is she threatening?
7. How does this threat echo America's struggle for independence?
8. What does this suggest about America's struggle?
9. Do you agree that men are by nature cruel and demanding?
10. Does she say all men act in ways which are cruel and demanding?
11. Is this letter a serious plea for women's rights?

Questions for John's response:

1. What does John mean by "your extraordinary Code of Laws"?
2. To whom are women being compared?
3. What do these different groups have in common?
4. What is the struggle for independence causing to happen to society?
5. What does the social turmoil he mentions suggest about the struggle?
6. Is he pleased that different sorts of people are also demanding rights?
7. Is he willing to give women political rights?
8. Is his letter serious?

Questions for Abigail's response:

1. What does she say will happen if women are not given political rights?
2. According to her, how can women subdue men?
3. Is her solution a way to real independence and freedom for women?
4. Why is her solution to the lack of women's rights so faint-hearted?
5. Is she serious in offering this means to dominate men?