

## Founding Feminists? In Their Own Words

---

Summarize the following primary source excerpts in your own words.

**1. Judith Sargent Murray, “On the Equality of Sexes,”**  
***The Massachusetts Magazine*, 1790**

The idea of the incapability of women, is, we conceive, in this enlightened age, totally inadmissible; and we have concluded, that establishing the expediency of admitting them to share the blessings of equality, will remove every obstacle to their advancement.

**2. Charles Brocken Brown, Alcuin: *A Dialogue*, 1798**

I should not be a little surprised to hear of a woman proffering her services as president or senator. It would be hard to restrain a smile to see her rise in a popular assembly to discuss some mighty topic. I should gaze as at a prodigy and listen with a doubting heart. Yet I might not refuse devotion to the same woman in the character of household deity...

**3. Benjamin Rush, *Thoughts on Female Education*, 1787**

As women are capable of feeling the same ardour in the pursuit of knowledge as men, why should they be denied the privilege of imbibing it?

**4. Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication on the Rights of Women*, 1792**

I do not wish women to have power over men; but over themselves.

*Continued*

---

## 5. Hannah More, *Strictures on the modern system of female education*, 1799

It is humbling to reflect, that in those countries in which fondness for the mere persons of women is carried to the highest excess, they are slaves; and that their moral and intellectual degradation increases in direct proportion to the adoration which is paid to mere external charms. But I turn to the bright reverse of this mortifying scene; to a country where our sex enjoys the blessings of liberal instruction, of reasonable laws, of a pure religion, and all the endearing pleasures of an equal, social, virtuous, and delightful intercourse: I turn to them with a confident hope, that women, thus richly endowed with the bounties of Providence, will not content themselves with polishing, when they are able to reform; with entertaining, when they may awaken; and with captivating for a day, when they may bring into action powers of which the effects may be commensurate with eternity.

## 6. Annis Boudinot Stockton to Julia Stockton Rush, 1792

I think the women have their equal right of every thing.

## 7. Lucy Stone, *An address at a hearing before the New Jersey Legislature*, March 6th, 1867

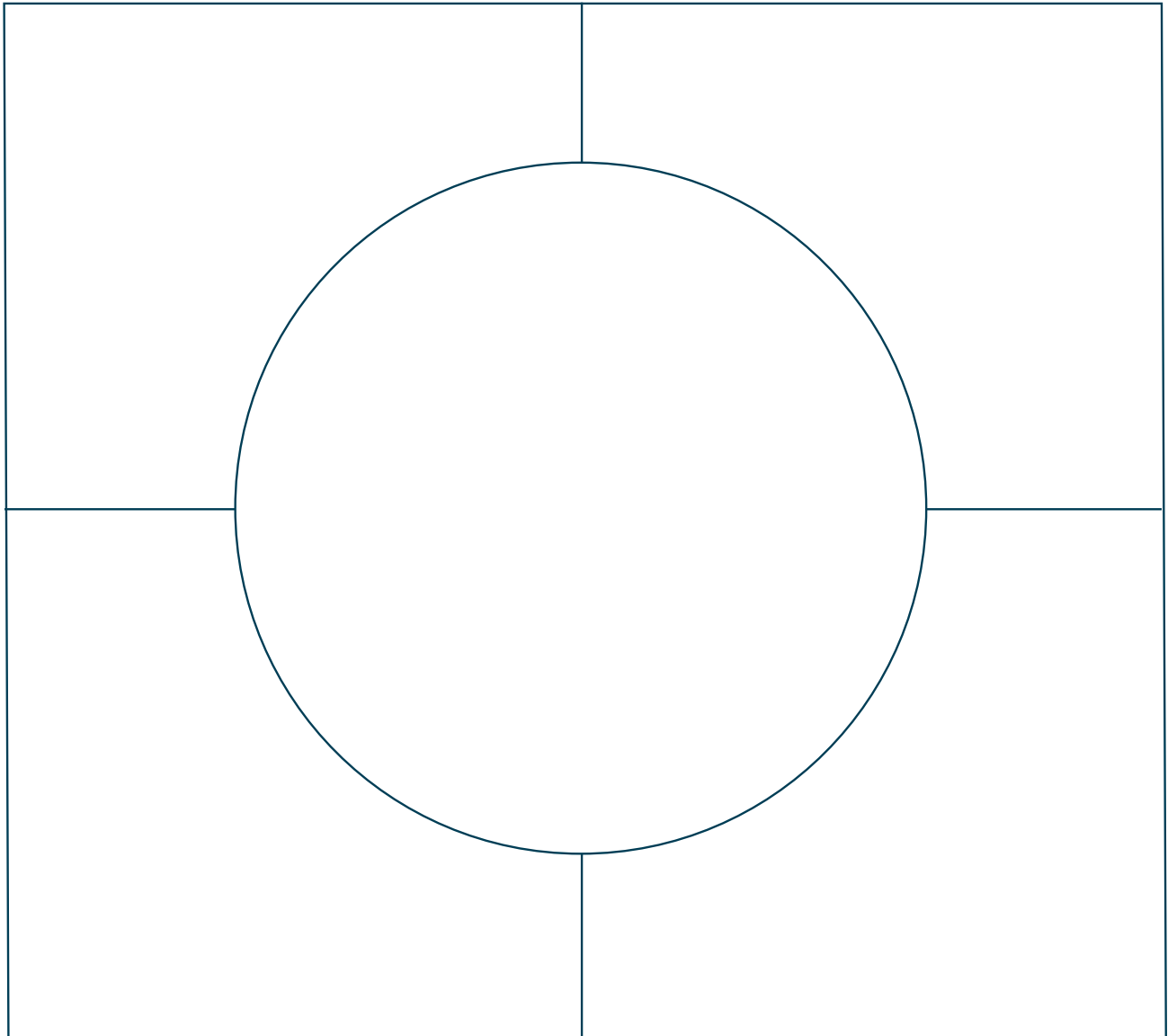
But we have an example nearer home. In New Jersey, women and negroes voted from 1776 to 1807, a period of thirty-one years...Women voted. Yet no catastrophe, social or political, ensued. Women did not cease to be womanly. They did not neglect their domestic duties. Indeed the noble character and exalted patriotism of the women of New Jersey all through the Revolution have been the subject of historical eulogy. There is no evidence that the women and free negroes abused or neglected their political privileges

## Keep within Compass Analysis

---

Examine the two “Keep within Compass” images. Write down words, phrases, or pieces of the pictures that stand out to you in each section of the engraving.

Version 1: \_\_\_\_\_



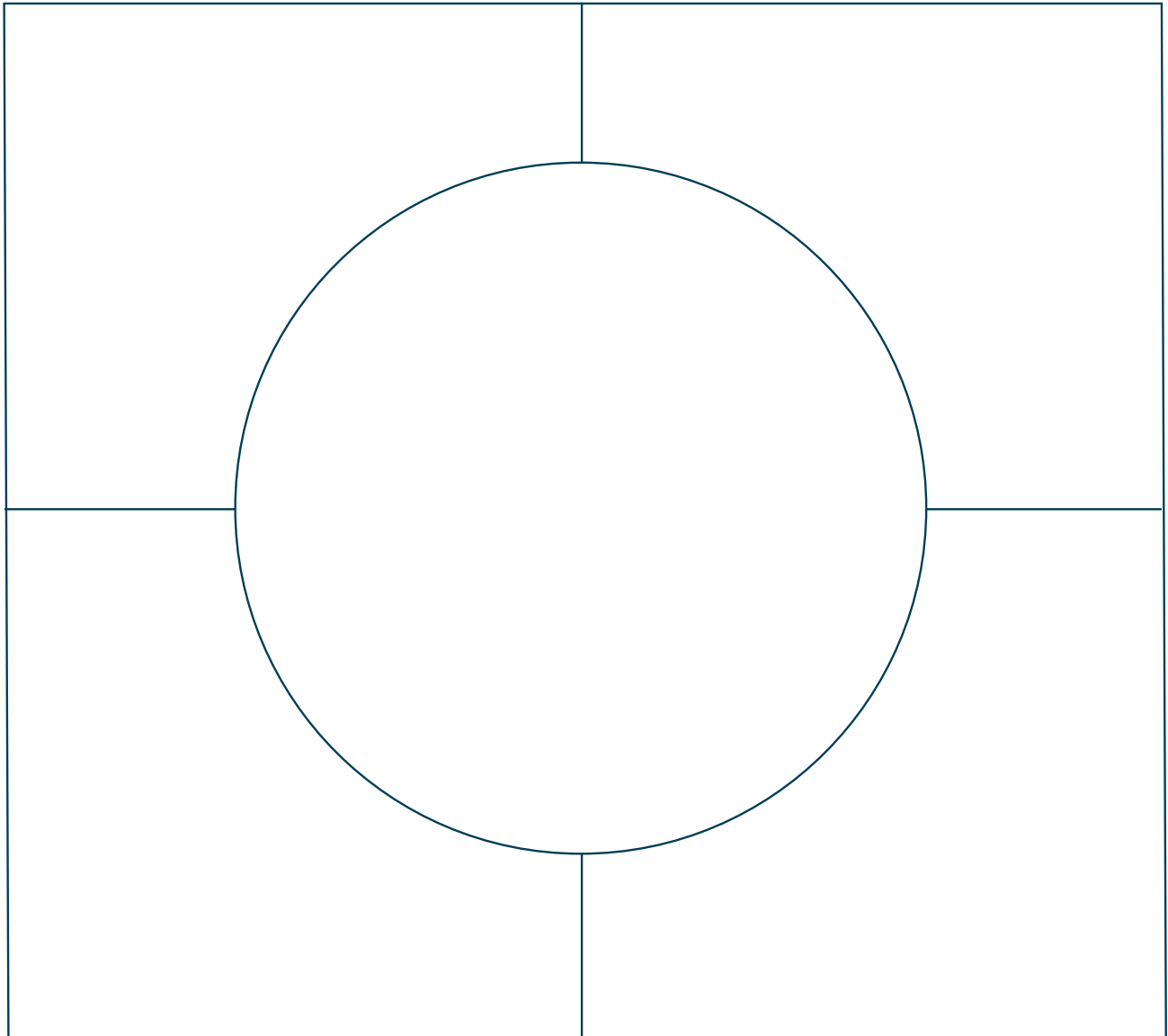
What initial conclusions can you draw from your findings? What message is this image sending?

## Keep within Compass Analysis

---

Examine the two “Keep within Compass” images. Write down words, phrases, or pieces of the pictures that stand out to you in each section of the engraving.

Version 2: \_\_\_\_\_



What initial conclusions can you draw from your findings? What message is this image sending?

## Keep within Compass Analysis *Answer Key - Women*



## Keep within Compass Analysis *Answer Key - Men*

