Gender and Women’s History

18th, 19th and early 20th century


**20th century**


**Post-1960s**


**Across U.S. history**

Matthew Basso, Laura McCall, and Dee Garceau, eds., *Across the Great Divide: Cultures of Manhood in the American West* (New York: Routledge, 2001). Chps 1,2,5,6, 9, 13


**Sexuality**


Beth Bailey, *Sex in the Heartland* (Harvard, 1999)


Allan Berube, *Coming Out Under Fire* (Free Press, 2000)


Siobhan B. Somerville, *Queering the Color Line: Race and the Invention of Homosexuality in American Culture*

Ann Laura Stoler, *Race and the Education of Desire: Foucault’s History of Sexuality and the Colonial Order of Things*


Theories and Methodologies


During the 19th century, the average age fell for English women, but it didn’t drop any lower than 22. Patterns varied depending on social and economic class, of course, with working-class women tending to marry slightly older than their aristocratic counterparts. Today’s approach to gender-specific colors would confuse and likely amuse our 19th-century counterparts. White was the preferred color for babies and children of any sex until they reached the age of about 6 or 7, mainly because white clothes and diapers could be bleached. As they grew older, children were dressed in paler versions of the colors adults wore. It wasn’t until the early 20th century that pink began to be universally assigned to girls and blue to boys. Teenagers in the early 19th and late 20th century were seen puffing on cigarettes and larking around with friends. Term ‘teenager’ was coined in the 1940s but pictures show youngsters were not so different from today’s youths. By Mailonline Reporter. A group of young women smoke and pose for the camera in the US in about 1900. A young teenage couple pose together, with the teen boy smoking a cigar with his girl sitting on his lap. A trio of British middle-class Victorian teenagers share a secret with one another, around the 1890s. A group of young women who worked in the fishing industry gather in Whitby, Yorkshire, in the 1890s. A group of teenage students in the woods on a recreational outing, pictured in the early 19th century.