

## Examrace

# Feminist Criticism: Introduction English YouTube Lecture Handouts

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## Introduction

- Judith Fetterley
- “Feminist Criticism is a political act whose aim is not simply to interpret the world, but to change it by changing the consciousness of those who read and their relation to what they read”
- 1960s
- Literature – Phallogocentric
- Gender politics

## Three Waves

- First Wave (late 1700s – early 1900s)
- Grew out of Abolitionism
- Mary Wollstonecraft
- Susan B Anthony and Victoria Woodhull

## Second Wave

- 1960s to 1980s
- Equality
- Simone de Beauvoir
- Elaine Showalter

## Third Wave

- Mid 1990s
- Resisted second wave
- Borrowed from Post Structural and contemporary gender and race theories
- Alice Walker

## French Feminism

- French intellectuals
  - Julia Kristeva
  - Helene Cixous
  - Luce Irigaray
- Reshaped by adding philosophical focus to feminist theory
- Post- Structuralist and psychoanalytical tools
- Ecriture feminism

## Key Terms

- I. Gynocriticism
- Elaine Showalter – Towards a Feminist Poetics
- Female authors
- Lost or Neglected Women writers
- Textual Meaning construction
- Elaine Showalter- A Literature of Their Own
- Gilbert and Gubar- A Madwoman in the Attic
- Patricia Meyer Spacks- The Female Imagination

## Ecriture Feminism

- Helene Cixous- The Laugh of the Medusa
- “Write! Writing is for you, you are for you; your body is yours, take it” .
- About their own self and bodies
- Openness, inclusiveness, digression
- Opposite to utilitarian, authoritarian, elitist and hierarchical.

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