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When one examines the political history of the United States today, one is exposed to the reality of how not one woman yet has succeeded in the presidency. Throughout the eras of political propaganda, this fact has allowed many women to fight towards further securing the rights of women overall following established, unethical gender roles and responsibilities that function as factors towards the existence of this reality today. However, when one studies the political history of other nations around the world, one is exposed to how, despite its threshold, women spent years as rulers over their countries. (Fletcher, 2017). Thus, Fletcher's 2017 documentary following the mysteries of Egypt's ancient pharaoh queens can be analyzed and understood. Here, the reality of women attaining and maintaining roles of power, such as Cleopatra and Nefertiti, allows viewers today to note women's capability to rule and be president, despite the believed roles and responsibilities determined to belong to men and women separately in civilization today. (Fletcher, 2017). By watching this film and understanding societal structure in terms of gender relations, past and present, one understands how the information concerning these Egyptian women rulers may have been shadowy but the overall power these women must have had to attain such roles regardless must have been great as well.

Fletcher's documentary, "How Ancient Egypt Lead the Way for Sexual Equality," follows the education and retelling of life events concerning the previous Egyptian queens who ruled during their respective eras in time. (Fletcher, 2017). Today, one may recognize the names of more famous and noteworthy Egyptian queens such as Queen Cleopatra and Queen Nefertiti. However, as Fletcher focuses on her narrations, she strategically uses storytelling to allow viewers to be impressed with each queen she discusses—despite their length of rule and accomplishments. (Fletcher, 2017). The video begins with

discussing how men are normally illustrated with power, thus easily attaining the title of King in their nations. (Fletcher, 2017). However, what Fletcher allows viewers to immediately understand going into the documentary is the power and respect these women wielded which allowed members of their society to follow their rulings during their time. (Fletcher, 2017). By analyzing how each woman reshaped the daily aspects of living in Ancient Egypt, one further understands the label of Pharaoh and Queen and how sexual equality was supported by these titles.

As it was normalized for Egyptian women to have financial, political, and social power within their nations, one understands as the ancient civilization of Egypt can be deemed as one of the first to focus on fair justice for all people. Here, the concepts of gender roles and responsibilities are irrelevant as women are deemed as being able to attain and attain the same, and even higher, levels of power as their male counterparts. (Fletcher, 2017). Fletcher discusses the first renowned woman mentioned in Ancient Egyptian works, Isis, and it is here one understands Fletcher's illustration of these Queens and Pharaohs as women whose duties and acts were to take care of all others living in their community. (Fletcher, 2017). What is deemed as a women's natural role and responsibility to nurture as a motherly figure, is instead implied by Fletcher to have been used as the driving force towards the succession of these women as Queens. This can be seen through the documentary's further analysis of how other women such as Lady Peseshet and Hatshepsut in Ancient Egypt maintained other professions of importance such as doctors, teachers, ministers, and more. (Fletcher, 2017).

Fletcher's documentary strategically educates viewers on the need to be educated by historical facts and events today. By noting and understanding how Egypt allowed men and women to attain similar levels of power during a time deemed as ancient, one today can use this knowledge to further support the concept of gender equality today. As women struggle to attain the title of President of the United States today, this group should not forget the strives of their female ancestors who were able to achieve their titles. These women were able to succeed as Queens and Pharaohs who significantly impacted Egypt for the better and transformed the aspect of life for all those who lived in Egypt during this time. This reality

should only encourage the current and future generations of women to continue to fight for change and the rights one deserves today.

#### References

Fletcher, J. (2017). "How Ancient Egypt Lead the Way for Sexual Equality." *Egypt's Lost Queens-Timeline*.

Video. YouTube. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3aNbNxKS6s>