

The String Revolution

READING: Women's Work

The First 20,000 Years Women, Cloth, and Society in Early Times

Elizabeth Wayland Barber (New York and London: W.W. Norton and Company, 1994).

CH. 2, "The String Revolution"

Choose one thing about the reading that surprised you about the history of spinning fiber, and write an original **150-250 word post** on what you found to be most unexpected. Here are some topics to consider:

- *Early uses of string referenced in the chapter*
- *Early forms of garments and their symbolism*
- *Division of labor in the prehistoric era*
- *Information gleaned for historians and anthropologists from the Venus of Willendorf*

In addition to your post, you must **REPLY TO 2 other posts**. Your reply should be **50-75 words**

Yessica He.

The string revolution.

Twisting string fibers existed for so many years ago, and it was found how interesting was the way to use strings in the past, especially for women, how this technique was related to the women's work and the meaning and symbolism it had it for them. The most interesting part for me was the shortness of the string skirt they had used; forty thousand years ago, women were using really short skirts that barely can cover any skin and/or any part of the body, which impressively if any woman would use in recent times anyone would think badly about her...or let say if any woman would wear it 60 years ago? Do not even think about it. However, their dresses or skirts was symbolic to them, even though was not really that useful, because of the loose strings the skirt has, like, it was not warm enough and also not modest, but why to wear it? According to the text, they found that for some countries, string-made skirts represents when a woman is childbearing; which means the ability of woman's readiness, puberty, or virginity, better said, she is ready to have a husband.

Years later, they fashioned the skirts, it was found that woman whom it was an important thing to them, they started to make it more beautiful and neater. Being this said, I was surprised that skirts was representing something in the past, and we might still have cultures which a garment still represents a symbol.