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| **OUTLINE**The Big Picture: Boys to Men, Girls to Women*The Rise of Patriarchy**Gendered Behavior: The Nonconformists*AbelardHeloiseHeloise and AbelardLove and PunishmentCastration in the Service of PatriarchyWhy Eunuchs?Heloise and Abelard: The End of the StoryThe Bigger Picture: Thinking about Gender*Modern Comparisons**The Future of Patriarchy* | **THINKING ABOUT THE BIG PICTURE**1. What is gender? How have societies, both ancient and modern, defined what is male and female? Why is it important to understand that some people do not conform to expected gender roles and identities? What are the limitations of studying nonconforming people before 1500?
2. What is patriarchy and what arguments does the author provide that it did not exist before the advent of urban-agrarian society?
3. Using the lives and words of Abelard and Heloise, discuss how they both conformed to or did not conform to gender and patriarchal expectations in medieval France.
4. Examine the role of eunuchs in pre-modern societies, how they are linked with patriarchy, and the different “social meanings” that could be given to castration.
5. Discuss how views on gender and patriarchy have changed in the United States over the past half-century.
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| **NOTES** | **NOTES** |