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Abigail Adams bio based on letters

During the American Revolution John Adams was an influential figure and is considered one of the founding fathers of our nation. While John Adams was in Pennsylvania working on the Constitution with the rest of the continental congress his wife, Abigail, was left at home to take care of the estate. During the time in which John Adams was away he and his weft sent each other a series of letters. Based on these letters it is possible to gain an understanding of how Abigail thought, acted and her relationship with her husband.

Abigail was not completely confident in her writing style and it is very apparent that she was only a recreational writer and did not do it for a living. On several occasions she mentions this in her writing. She writes that her husband should learn of events from “a more accurate hand than mine.” (Letter 32) Despite her apparent lack of confidence she nevertheless shows that she is well educated, a trait rare in women of the period.

Despite her many different extraordinary talents she was still very human. She felt lonely without her husband. She often mentions this either directly (letter 32) or more indirectly such as when she references how he would express her anxiety for her (letter 63). She and her husband had a close and caring relationship as is also apparent when you look at John Adam’s letters to her. He writes “It is a great affliction to me that I cannot write to you oftener than I do.” (Letter 16)

Abigail Adams was also a groundbreaker in many ways. Even though this is during the eighteenth century she implores of her husband that he would “remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands.” (Letter 91)This line of thinking was at the time of the writing extremely against the status quo and was even seen as radical. Even though she knew she may have to suffer persecution for her viewpoints she nonetheless tirelessly pushes this issue in several letters. Even though the constitution did not in fact give women all the rights she was hoping for nonetheless it foreshadowed the revolutions of the nineteen sixties.

All in all through the letters of Abigail Adams to her husband we can learn many things about her and her relationship with her husband. She was well educated and thought in a way that was not common during that period and as such she stands as an example to many thinkers both in the recent past and today.