A Generational Journey: Women

women and the media

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Summary:**

In this session we examined the changing perception of women choosing non-traditional careers and life choices as reflected in the media over the past century. Next, we discussed the media’s portrayal of women and aging in American culture. We wrapped up by exploring ways to share and compare life roles and experiences with women of younger generations, looking at similarities, challenges and desires.

*“You will never look like the girl in the magazine. The girl in the magazine doesn’t even look like the girl in the magazine.”* – Jessimae Peluso, Comedian

# NOTES:

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# “Old Maid in the Garret” Lyrics

Now I've often heard it said from me father and me mother

That goin' to a weddin' is the makings of another

Well, if this be so, then they'll go without a biddin'

Oh kind providence, won't you send me to a wedding

***And its oh dear me, how would it be,***

***If I die an old maid in the garret***

Well now, there's my sister Jean, she's not handsome or good lookin'

Scarcely sixteen and a fella she was courtin'

Now she's twenty-four with a son and a daughter

Here am I at forty-five and I've never had an offer

***And its oh dear me, how would it be,***

***If I die an old maid in the garret***

I can cook and I can sew, I can keep the house right tidy

And rise up in the mornin' to get the breakfast ready

There's nothing in this wide world would make me half so cheery

As a wee fat man who would call me his own deary

***And its oh dear me, how would it be,***

***If I die an old maid in the garret***

So come landsman or come kinsman, come tinker or come tailor

Come fiddler or come dancer, come ploughboy or come sailor

Come rich man, come poor man, come fool or come witty

Come any man at all that will marry me for pity

***And its oh dear me, how would it be,***

***If I die an old maid in the garret***

Well now I'm away home, where nobody's heedin'

Oh nobody heedin' to poor Annie's pleadin'

And I'll go away home to my own bitty garret

If I can't get a man, then I'll have to get a parrot

***And its oh dear me, how would it be,***

***If I die an old maid in the garret***

- The Clancy Brothers & Tommy Makem https://www.bellsirishlyrics.com/old-maid-in-the-garret.html

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A reflection of beauty shared by *Audrey Hepburn, British actress and humanitarian*

*For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.*

*For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people.*

*For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.*

*For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through it once a day.*

*For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone.*

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**IDEAS and NOTES** on ways to share and compare life roles and experiences with younger women, looking at similarities, challenges and desires.

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1) Goal I want to accomplish: (*example: Increase my awareness of messaging to women about beauty.)*

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2) One step I could take toward that goal: *(example: Scrutinize ads in magazines and on television that focus messaging to women.)*

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3) Ways I can break this step (#2) into smaller actions: *(List as many actions as you can think of, i.e.; Look for positive ads using healthy messages. Note the messaging in ads for older women. Watch for ads that use real female models who have realistic looks and “imperfections.”)*

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