

Worksheet: Gender Expectations in the late 1800s

(To be used with Lesson Plan, "[The Westward Movement and Charley Parkhurst](#)")

The 1800s in the United States was a time when lots of people moved to the west. That means they traveled by ship or wagon train or horse to move to newly developed states such as California, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona and Washington. With the discovery of gold in California in 1849, this caused more people to move and to seek their fortune. Think about the gender expectations of people in the late 1800s and who were the people who moved west.

Focus question: *What were the gender expectations of people in the late 1800s and what did some people do to change these expectations?*

Directions:

- Complete the table below. Under each category, list the expected dress, behaviors, interests, appearance and anything else you feel that was expected of people based on their gender in the late 1800s.
- Circle the items that are the same for each gender.
- Discuss the focus question.

Boy/Man	Girl/Woman
Dress:	Dress:
Behavior:	Behavior:
Interests:	Interests:
Appearance:	Appearance:
More . . .	More . . .