



Search forums

Forum 1
Censorship & Morality

• [Subscribe](#)

◀ [American Exceptionalism](#)

[Conservatism & Censorship](#) ▶

Display replies in nested form

Move this discussion to ...

Move



Censorship & Morality

by [Joe Escobar](#) – Friday, April 8, 2016, 11:34 AM

This thread is for discussions on the Censorship & Morality topic.
To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT – SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post, something that describes which question(s) you are addressing . Do NOT simply leave it RE: Censorship & Morality

Sum of ratings: –

[Edit](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



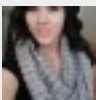
Sapho challenges conservative behavior..

by [Kalli Schroeder](#) – Friday, April 8, 2016, 10:25 PM

Most compelling about Sapho is that the play was very popular and because the conservatives couldn’t stop people from watching it, they arrested the actual face of the play. By arresting the actress, conservatives were acting in a liberal way by using government force to control peoples’ behavior. They didn’t like the idea that women were sexual beings because it was not the “norm”. They accused the actress of violating public indecency and being instructive towards bad behavior in women.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



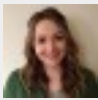
Unintended consequences such as racism

by [Kalli Schroeder](#) – Friday, April 8, 2016, 10:38 PM

I believe that the Mann Act was necessary back then because it raised awareness of prostitution and trafficking of women which I also believe is important today. I disagree with how they reinforced the law such as charging Jack Johnson with violating the law because he moved his white girlfriend to a different state. By attempting to regulate the behavior of citizens, the government runs into unintended consequences such as the racial accusations towards the relationship between Jackson and his “white lover”. Did the Mann Act protect women in the same circumstances as Jackson's girlfriend or was the government acting on racial complaints?

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Consequences of the Mann Act

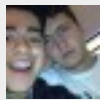
by [Chloe Duryea](#) – Saturday, April 16, 2016, 12:31 PM

I also believe that the Mann Act was necessary back then because it made the transportation of any

woman/girl across states solely for prostitution illegal. This topic is still important to this day. However, the Mann Act had many adverse effects, such as unmarried couples being persecuted due to engaging in sexual activities, especially when it involved crossing the state lines. I enjoyed reading the line you wrote, “By attempting to regulate the behavior of citizens, the government runs into unintended consequences such as the racial accusations towards the relationship between Jackson and his white lover.” Many believed that Jackson’s case was racially motivated. The Mann Act undoubtedly protected young women from being forced into prostitution, but it also caused negative/unfair consequences such as the example I gave about unmarried couples being persecuted. All laws and regulations that the government puts into place come with positive and negative consequences.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply

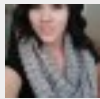


Mann Act & Consequences
by [Luis Montoya](#) – Monday, April 11, 2016, 6:31 PM

I don’t think the Mann Act was necessary back then when they first established it but I could also see why they did have it. To prevent young girls from being lured out by money and choosing/being forced a path towards prostitution. I can also see that it was one of those very useful vague laws that prosecutors used when they didn’t like what you did, but nothing else seemed to apply. Today I still think its necessary to some extent, to protect the younger girls and boys. When government attempts to regulate the behavior of its citizens there will always be those who will be against it. There will be those who think by having the government control its citizens that, that is not freedom. That by having freedom it should mean having less regulation on its citizens. Unintended consequences to protect or help a specific group of people can vary. It could either have a positive, unexpected benefit other than the policy itself or it could also have a negative effect, unexpected detriment occurring in addition to the desired effect of the policy. Such as a perverse effect contrary to what was originally intended.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply

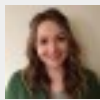


"immorality"
by [Kalli Schroeder](#) – Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:13 PM

Luis, your reply really opened my mind about the Mann Act. I was under the impression that the Mann Act was put into place because women and children were strictly being forced into prostitution. I never considered the fact that some women chose that lifestyle. So I agree when you say, "When government attempts to regulate the behavior of its citizens there will always be those who will be against it." I did some research and Wikipedia says, “The Mann Act's ambiguous language of "immorality" meant it could be used to criminalize consensual sexual behavior between adults." That statement coincides with your statement because the Mann Act was making consensual sex illegal which could be considered a violation of human right’s so there will definitely be those who will be against it. Wikipedia also says, "Its primary stated intent was to address prostitution, "immorality", and [human trafficking](#) particularly where it was trafficking for the purposes of prostitution" I think it’s interesting because from a conservative's point of view, the act is using government force to change society. Such as taking away the rights of women who chose that lifestyle (maybe as a way of expressing their sexuality) and labeling it “immoral”. From liberal points of view, they were leaning towards progressivism because they were using government reinforcement to change something in society that they didn’t agree with. Such as the “immorality” of women supporting prostitution. I do strongly believe that the Act was put into place mostly for the prevention of “White-Slavery”, the kidnapping of women and children and forcing them into prostitution. But your reply gave me another view point! Thank you!

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



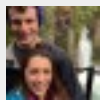
Establishment of the Mann Act
by [Chloe Duryea](#) – Saturday, April 16, 2016, 11:14 AM

Luis, I completely agree with your opinion on the establishment of the Mann Act. I think part of it had to do with the fact that some women may be forced into prostitution. However, many women may also choose that path for themselves due to the money. Also, there will always be people who go against laws that have been put into place. As our instructor pointed out in class, laws will be put into place, but that does not mean people will follow them. His example was texting and driving. Even though it is against the law, many people

continue to do it, and cops don't always enforce the law against texting/talking on the phone while driving. Moreover, I also agree with what you wrote about citizens thinking that the government regulating its people is a form of the government controlling them. Which of course, goes against our freedom. Some laws/regulation will have positive outcomes, and others will have negative. There will always be citizens who choose not to follow laws that the government puts into place.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Censorship & Morality
by [Dennis Bench](#) – Monday, April 11, 2016, 8:54 PM

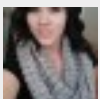
The thing I found most compelling about the Sapho video was the Olga arrest. It amazes me how much times have changed since then. It definitely seem'd like a good play to distinguish sexual morality for women and eventually in the court case she was proven not guilty.

Yes I believe the Mann act was necessary then to stop the prostitution that was happening. I definitely think it is necessary today because it is disrespect to women and total violation of women rights developed throughout the years. I think what will happen is people will follow the act more as people continue to get caught like expressed in the video.They eventually amended the act to any sexual activity in which people can face criminal charges when convicted.

I feel the U.S will always have some problems with morality. I do agree that they seem similar to the time of the 20th century. The media has a huge influence on todays generation with revealing the stories. I think it is easier to see whats going on especially if its a bad thing like sex scandals.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

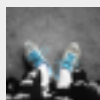


I agree!
by [Kalli Schroeder](#) – Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 11:29 PM

Dennis, I agree with everything you have said! But I'm curious about what you are referring to when you say that times have changed a lot since the Olga arrest. My understanding, Olga was arrested because she was a face for those opposing the Mann Act. Today, we still tend to focus our biases on the "face" of a party. The Mann Act was mainly trying to prevent the kidnapping of women and children who were being forced into prostitution, but to inforce that law they punished women who were open about their sexuality because they believed it promoted prostitution. In a way, they were using Olga as an example to society on reinforcing the Mann Act. Today, I believe we still use people as examples for reinforcement and we still punish those who stand out during a certain controversy. In a book titled *Policing Sexuality* the author quotes, "Working prostitutes were imprisoned at dramatically increased rates, while their male clients were seldom prosecuted." (<http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780674368118>). I think that relates to Olga's arrest because instead of arresting and punishing the men who hire the women, they punish the women. Just like Olga was arrested instead of the play writer and/or director. I agree that times have changed and it did distinguish sexual morality for women! I also agree that media has a huge role in relating stories to the public.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



What... do I say again?
by [Brooke Moriarty](#) – Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 1:29 PM

So, I don't have much of a thought on what to say about this, because I don't really know what the question is, which is probably the point.

However, from the phrase itself, it doesn't make sense to me. I don't see how censorship is moral. The only situation I can think of to truly justify censorship would be when someone censors themselves so that they don't cuss around kids, and other similar examples. Perhaps I'm missing the point. In the whole of this moment that I am typing, I am thinking of censorship as lying, as hiding the truth, which I see it as wrong or unhelpful.

Well, I'm hoping that when I get access to posts from other classmates, I'll get a better idea of what I'm supposed to be saying. Is my post supposed to have something to do with what we read? The way that America censored people of the IWW and of German and Austrian descendants was immoral, as well as the way information was given in only partial truths, like how American papers didn't mention that the Lusitania cruise ship had

ammunition forthe Allies on board when it was attacked by Germany. I can say that I believe that without any hesitation.

...

Brooke

Sum of ratings: (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



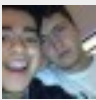
Consider Sapho and comment on the state of censorship prevalent in the United States in 1900. What do you find most compelling about the entire episode?

by [Chloe Duryea](#) – Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 5:05 PM

The video of Sapho shows how the state of censorship was much more prevalent in the United States during the 1900’s. The most compelling aspect of the video was the fact that the character, Sapho, was not punished in the play, so therefore she was punished in real life. Olga, who played as Sapho in the play, was arrested for violating public decency and faced a fine. I was shocked when I heard this. I had to rewind the video and listen to it again because I could not believe that she was arrested for portraying a character in a play. The play ended with a man simply carrying Sapho up the stairs to a bedroom, which implied that she was going to have an explicit sexual relationship. She was arrested in real life all for implying a message and portraying a character. Nowadays, we are exposed to so many things that are much worse than this on a daily basis, so it is hard to wrap my head around the fact that she was arrested for this. Life was so different back then and this just proves how prevalent the state of censorship was in the 1900’s.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



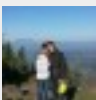
Sapho then and now

by [Luis Montoya](#) – Saturday, April 16, 2016, 8:36 PM

In the Sapho and court case the part that compelled me the most was the fact that since Olga wasn’t punished in the play, that instead she would have to be punished in real life. Another part that surprised me was that an inspector for the New York Police Department testified saying that he personally didn’t find it offensive in any way, even after viewing it several times. Due to the court case, her and the play became even more known and attracted more viewers. Initially backfiring on those who arrested her. Nowadays it’s a lot more common to see females be more open about their sexuality and not be seen as scandalous to the public eyes. If you were to see a man carrying a girl and her not being against it then you wouldn’t think much of it, much less be arrested for public decency.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



America's Self-Punishment Complex

by [Dan Johnson](#) – Saturday, April 16, 2016, 11:37 PM

A man and a women explore their sexuality and experience pleasure, and the American public decry it as perverse display undermining their society. It seems to go back to the American work-ethic where if a person is experiencing too much pleasure, they aren't working hard enough along with of course, other cultural controls usually present around sexuality. Because sexuality speaks to a part of people's core identities, it is an immensely personal subject matter for many. It makes many people feel a need to comment on other's sexual acts as a means of maintaining their own sense of security. With a little public guilt on the fire of insecurity, it can create "mobs" in as sense used to destroy people's lives. Because sexuality speaks to people's core identities, it can also be a cruel way to break people at the fundamental source of their perspective and outlook in terms of their attractions and why they have those attractions in much broader context than just sex. In other words, it strikes deep in people to their cores. At times, it seems like attacking people's sexuality is a political strategy whether implicit or explicit. It appears to be used as a sick to way to give people the experience of complete control or dominance over others. For example, in many cases not unique to Eliot Spitzer's "scandal", the cultural norm has been written to underscore the right of society to take from someone their freedoms, families, jobs, and voice if they are caught in amidst a sexual "scandal" through usually media involvement and public pressure irregardless if the public is vastly misinformed. The media and the public decides to seize the right of control over a individual's life to select their fate. What gives them that right? In some cases, they give passes usually if that individual is powerful and the "mob" can instead place blame on another powerless individual involved. Once

again, what gives them that right? America has a fixation with self–punishment, and when others are seen to step away from social ideals, American society feels the need to fulfill the role of punisher for those others until they continue it for themselves. Since sexuality in the American mind is often seen most directly involved in the punishment–reward paradigm, other people's sexualities are addressed as such attempting to maintain the "proper" amount of reward and punishment.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

[◀ American Exceptionalism](#)

[Conservatism & Censorship ▶](#)

 [Moodle Docs for this page](#)

[HST 203 Sp16 \(Escobar Meta 41147 41146\)](#)

[LCC Home](#) | [LCC Student Help](#) | [LCC Faculty Help](#) | [Faculty Moodle Training](#) |