

**Homework Assignment:** Write about at least Ques. 1, 2, 4 and 5 (about 1 pg.- 1 ½ pg.) We will discuss all these questions in class. Also review the “Documentary Films” handout as you complete this assignment.

**Questions on *The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter* (Connie Field, 1980) and Betty Friedan’s *The Feminine Mystique* (1963):**

1. Why do you think that the filmmaker (Connie Field) selected these five women to tell the story of U.S. female defense workers during World War II? How does the style of this film (e.g., lack of narrative voice-over or “talking heads”) compare to that of *Ida B Wells: Passion for Justice*?
2. How did the needs of the U.S. defense economy during World War II contribute to questioning biological determinist arguments about “woman’s place” and the nature of masculinity and femininity? What film scenes (name at least two) express this sense of questioning?
3. What is the effect of viewing the contrast (name at least one scene) between the U.S. government wartime propaganda and the five women’s lives? How does the filmmaker use voice-over?
4. How does the postwar conservative shift in U.S. gender roles after 1945 affect these five women? What does the film present as the meaning(s) of their World War II experience?
5. What connections do you make between Friedan’s first chapter of *The Feminine Mystique* (“The Problem that Has No Name”) and the film?

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