ENGELS on THE ORIGIN OF THE FAMILY, PRIVATE PROPERTY, & THE STATE
WHAT? Women’s subordination & domestication
CAUSED BY:
1. Women’s exclusion from “social production”- getting into labor market.
   Women produce human beings. Engels makes a public/private distinction, which
   is gendered. Public-male Private-female; reference on page 198.
2. Ownership of property
   Men have access to social production & women do not.
   Men as bourgeoisie & women as proletariat-pg. 200 last paragraph.
3. Inheritance & lineage (monogamy)
   Monogamous marriage is the institution that enforces fidelity because it’s the only
   way men can make sure their inheritance is protected and given to their heirs
   (children) pg. 201 Male control = male supremacy.

*Integration of women into public industry requires abolition of monogamous family.

Engels’ division of labor is gendered. At home work vs. work in factories. If women
become integrated into social production then they are in a double bind because they
cannot fulfill both duties.

**Economic Unit of Society**
One person that specializes in social production = male
One person that specializes in reproduction = female
*It’s about regulating women’s sexuality and fertility (inheritance)*

Women’s subordination and domestication as:
Slavery (domestic)-pg. 192
Prostitution- exchanging sexual access for material goods-pg. 197

What makes monogamous marriage not prostitution?
* Contract
* Public/private distinction
*Answer to question gets complicated

*It’s important to note that proletariat marriage is not like monogamous marriage in the
controlling aspect because there is no property to inherit.

**Engels As a “Marxist”**
* Echoes arguments from Manifesto
* Economistic & materialist argument
* Material relations-how men & women relate to economic production
• Class analysis-distinguishes how marriage works between bourgeoisie and proletariat
• Uses metaphor of class conflict to distinguish gender relations
• Conflict model- oppressor & oppressed
• Dialectical

Marxist Feminist Analysis:
Root of women’s subordination & domestication is in social production

The Woman Question
• Origin of family
• Women’s status as a social and NOT natural/functionalist phenomenon