

Questions on To the Ladies by Lady Mary Chudleigh:

1. Given that in 1703 married women had almost no legal rights, might you still take issue with the speaker's pronouncements about the status of wives in her time? What statements might you dispute?
2. If the speaker overstates her case to a degree, why might she do so? What possible purposes might she have?
3. Could this poem have been written in the 1990s? What details would you need to alter to update the speaker's complaint and advice?