

**SP. 401 INTRO TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES FALL 2010**

**Questions on *The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter* and *The Feminine Mystique***

**Homework Assignment:** Write about Ques. 3, 5 and one other.

1. Why do you think that the filmmaker (Connie Field) selected these five women to tell the story of U.S. women during World War II?

2. How did the needs of the defense economy during World War II contribute to a rethinking of biological essentialist arguments about "women's place" and the nature of masculinity and femininity?

3. What is the effect of viewing the contrast between the government propaganda and the women's lives? How does the filmmaker use voice-over?

4. How does the postwar conservative shift in gender roles affect these women? What is the meaning of their World War II experience?

5. What connections do you make between Friedan's first chapter of *The Feminine Mystique* and the film?

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