

Gender and/or Multicultural Issues in a Thematic Context

Olga was born into a family of three. She had two other sisters. Her parents were both very well rounded people. Her mother had no formal education, but was very supportive of her daughter. Likewise, her father was supportive and he was an industrial chemist and was also very well educated in the arts. There wasn't very much information on any Gender or Multicultural Issues that Olga may have faced. As we have already stated, she probably faced most of the gender differences in a school setting. Being forced to study Home Economics instead of what interested her can be considered as a Gender Issue. Later on in her career, Olga wasn't hired as a professor, but was hired as 'staff' at the California Institute of Technology because her husband was a professor there at the time. I think that this had a lot to do with the fact that Universities and schools wanted males during this time period. I think that she was again violated because of her gender.

One last interesting fact is that about 50% of the women mathematicians we have studied in this course are married to male mathematicians. Olga is a part of this percentage. Her husband, John Todd was a math professor at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.