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The authors of both “A Fille du Roi’s Passage” and “‘Nagging Wife’ Revisited: Women and the Fur Trade in New France” discuss the role of a woman in the history. Nevertheless, Adrienne Leduc focuses on how women were “used” for increasing the population in New France and also on how some features in history do not change, while Jan Noel argues that the role of women in history is underestimated and they had much more occupation than people tend to think.

Adrienne Leduc reflects on the life of one of the Filles du Roi, Jeanne Faucheux, the author's husband's ancestor. The author imagines what Jeanne's life could have been like and how she felt during the journey to New France where she had to get married to a man whom she had never seen before. Moreover, Adrienne Leduc states that she and Jeanne Faucheux had a lot in common. “In 1946, 275 years after your arrival in Canada as a fille du roi, another group of young women crossed the Atlantic. That year more than forty-eight thousand war brides came to join their Canadian husbands. I can identify with you, Jeanne, because I was one of these young women”[[1]](#footnote-1), she says. Thus the author believes that the history repeats itself sometimes, and people from different centuries may have some similarities in their lives.

Speaking about Jan Noel's “Nagging Wife’ Revisited: Women and the Fur Trade in New France”, it is dedicated to the active role of women in New France. Noel argues that women played a significant part in business. For instance, one of those women “expanded the fur and marine-oil business despite being left a widow with five children aged 6 to 19”[[2]](#footnote-2). Another one “began to do the laundry work and baking for the mission to the Hurons in 1743, with 10 livres per annum as her salary”[[3]](#footnote-3). So obviously those women were not only “housewives” but also entrepreneurs and, probably, did as much as their husbands .

In the conclusion the author says: “As always, women tended to be multi-taskers, interspersing resource work with their other responsibilities. The “nagging wife” may not have joined her husband in the canoe, but there was a good chance she grew the tobacco, made the shirts he took west to trade – maybe even made the canoe itself!”[[4]](#footnote-4). It proves that women had much more duties than some historians think. And maybe even more than men had.

To sum up, “A Fille du Roi’s Passage” and “‘Nagging Wife’ Revisited: Women and the Fur Trade in New France” prove that women played an important part in the history of Canada, even though it is underestimated by many historians.

1. Leduc, Adrienne. “A Fille Du Roi’s Passage.” Beaver 81, no. 1 (February 2001): 20 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Noel, Jan. ""Nagging Wife" Revisited: Women and the Fur Trade in New France." French Colonial History 7 (2006): 48. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Noel, Jan. ""Nagging Wife" Revisited: Women and the Fur Trade in New France." French Colonial History 7 (2006): 50 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Noel, Jan. ""Nagging Wife" Revisited: Women and the Fur Trade in New France." French Colonial History 7 (2006): 56 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)