# Femininity in China

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## Introduction

Chinese history shows the struggle that young women had to go through to please their parents and their culture. Chinese history lets the reader almost feel like a witness to how much perfection was expected from young women. Even if the point of endless pain had occurred, the young women had to carry out, and this shows and explain why most people saw a need to stop it. Even through everything, women of Ancient China were shown to be strong and willed.

## Roles of Women

- Caretaker of children
- Obedient to spouse and his family
- Caretaker of the household
- Attempted to achieve perfection/beauty

## Children

- Boys were considered to be superior children, and favored.
- They were given better treatment and opportunities.
- They were expected to enlist for the army.
- Girls had to be obedient to all elders and men.
- Girls were not given the same opportunities.

## Education

- Wome’s education, not important
- Loyal to husband’s family, nothing more
- Only few were scholar, only women who that had their father teach them

## Footbinding

- Started age 6 or 7
- Considered a mark of beauty
- Necessary to have feet binded to find a husband
- 10-year-long process of pain to stun growth
- Women with binded feet likely to fall and fracture hip

## Nushu

- A secretive language between women
- Used while men were out working
- Helped develop a strong companionship within women
- Has over 2,000 characters

## Bibliography

