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Proposal for New Historicism Paper

- A. Thesis: Kate Chopin's contributions to literature reflect the power struggle of the feminist movement during the early 20th century.
- B. Feminist Movements of the early 20th century
- C. Concept of death as feminist liberation in *The Awakening* and *The Story of an Hour*
- D. The regionalism of Chopin's works, focusing on Creole communities
- E. How Chopin depicts women of color

Commented [1]: You have a topic area but can't at this stage make concrete claims without having done more extensive research. The sample paper on the novel in our casebook looks at Edna in terms of property rights for women.

It might be easier to focus on the novel or the story and then concentrate on specific first wave feminist issues that the work evokes.

Sources:

- The Awakening* by Kate Chopin
- Story of an Hour* by Kate Chopin
- Desiree's Baby* by Kate Chopin
- Baldwin, Gabrielle. "THE PLACE OF FEMALE WRITERS IN AMERICAN LITERATURE: THE CASE OF KATE CHOPIN." *Australasian Journal of American Studies*, vol. 5, no. 1, 1986, pp. 50–56. *JSTOR*.
- Cutter, Martha J. "Losing the Battle but Winning the War: Resistance to Patriarchal Discourse in Kate Chopin's Short Fiction." *Legacy*, vol. 11, no. 1, 1994, pp. 17–36. *JSTOR*.
- Gray, Jennifer B. "The Escape of the 'Sea': Ideology and 'The Awakening.'" *The Southern Literary Journal*, vol. 37, no. 1, 2004, pp. 53–73. *JSTOR*.
- Howell, Elmo. "Kate Chopin and the Creole Country." *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association*, vol. 20, no. 2, 1979, pp. 209–219. *JSTOR*.