

Aristophanes Lysistrata is a play dealing with the end of the Peloponnesian War. The women in the play hated being alone while their husbands were off at war. The women of Greece knew to end the war they would have to take matters into their own hands. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the ending of the war as seen by the ^①men and the ^②women.

The Greek ^①men were all out fighting against each other and the war seemed like it would never end. When the women started to take their action to end the war, the men could not believe it. They thought it ridiculous that the women were out to end this and not them. The men were out raged when the women took over the Acropolis, which housed the treasury. The men tried to talk to them and have them come out and forget about the ridiculous action they were taking. The women would not do anything of that kind, they swore an oath to end the war and they would stay by that oath. The men tried to burn logs outside the Acropolis, but the women threw water over the walls extinguishing the logs, while also getting the men wet. The men also did not like being teased by the women and being left in the state that the women left them in.

The women ^②knew that they had to take matters into their own hands, because the men were getting no where. They all swore an oath to the gods that they would not have sex with the men until they ended the war. They would tease the men and leave them right before anything happened. This was seen in the scene with Myrhine and Kinesias. Kinesias came to get his wife and told her how

much he missed her. When they went to the Pan Cave she would keep coming up with excuses to prolong the wait. Just before their thind together started she left him. Leaving him in an unhappy state for the male. The men thought it unkind for the women to tease them like they were doing and very wrong to take over the Acropolis. The women took over the Acropolis because the treasury was located there and if the men could not get in then they could not be paid. The whole idea that the women had about stopping sex until the war ended was because they did not want to produce anymore children for the men to train for the war. The action that the women took worked because the Greek men got together and formed a truce. Lysistrata shows the men how wrong they were by showing what each had done for one another. This proved to the men that the women are not as dumb as they thought.

With the ending of the war we see both the men and the women's reactions. What the women did in the play might seem rude and vulgure but in the end it worked. Aristophanes made the women in this play to look good. He shows that they to get education and can use their brains just as much if not more then the men.