Discussion: Gloria Steinem and Menstruation!

In discussing biology and sociology with regards to gender, we are going to read a very interesting article written by Gloria Steinem (activist, founder of Ms. Magazine). The article "If Men Could Menstruate" was written in the 1970's during the second wave of feminism. **Think SOCIOLOGICALLY when reading this article.** **Do not get defensive. Have an open mind on what message Gloria Steinem is trying to give us.**

Read the article and then follow the assignment.

Link to article:   <http://www.mum.org/ifmencou.htm>

Each response must be 5 sentences. Please be complete in your responses. As we are in a sociology course, demonstrate your knowledge as a sociologist. **What would a sociologist state? Even though we may have personal opinions, we want to demonstrate our understanding of sociology.**

1. What is your sociological analysis of the article?
2. According to the article, if men are in power (patriarchy), how is menstruation, a biological difference, constructed in society?
3. According to the article, if women are in power (matriarchy) instead of men (patriarchy), how is menstruation, a biological difference, constructed in society?
4. According to the article, what is the bottom line on how society takes biological differences and creates social constructions?
5. After you have responded, look at your classmates' responses.
Give feedback: 3 sentences to two classmates.