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A Woman Who Understood the Rites

in the Analects. In other texts that purport to transmit remarks of Confirming has in with the confirming has been also been a

fucius, he is said to comment on the behavior, ethics, and knowledge of

♣ HERE IS LITTLE DISCUSSION OF WOMEN

several women. He repeatedly praises "the woman of the Jì" elsewhere referred to as "the mother of Wénbó" and as Jìng Jiāng of the Jì of Lǔ 魯季敬姜 (henceforward Jìng Jiāng or Jìng Jiāng of Lǔ).¹ To judge by the frequency of stories about her in other Warring States texts, he was not alone in his good opinion of her. She was the wife of one official, the mother of another, and the grandaunt of yetanother. Despite an apparent paradigm for female virtue in which woman never comment on politics, she admonished her son and nephew on important matters and negotiated some tricky ritual situations herself. Her arguments stress the "separate spheres" of men and women, but her obvious erudition and savoir faire raise questions about whether "men's" education was available to at least some women.

Confucius' comments about her appear in the Liènǚ zhuàn 列女傳 or Collected Life Stories of Women, where she is one of two women he praises.² He praises her for understanding the rites and the distinctions between men and women and between superior and inferior. Similar praise appears in the Lǐ jì, and her expertise is used for a different set of rhetorical purposes in the Zhànguó cè. Who was she, and what did Confucius (and so many others) see in her? In the first section I take up the traditions that emphasize her expertise in politics and ritual. Next I consider Confucius' comment about her and traditions that bear on the question of his teaching interactions with women. In the last section, I turn to textual traditions that stress her apparent approval of "separate spheres," including appropriations of Jìng Jiāng of Lǔ in Song and Ming texts.

I. A Woman of Expertise

The life story of Jing Jiang of Lu is the longest and most detailed life story in the Liènu zhuàn. The Guó yu contains eight separate stories about her, all in the second book of Lu. She also appears in the Hán Shì wàizhuàn, Zhànguó cè, and Lǐ jì. These narratives portray her as a woman of considerable expertise, who operates within (and appears to approve of) the gender codes of her society, but with no loss of acumen in expressing her views on both state and domestic affairs to her male

relatives. She delivers extensive speeches on weaving and statecraft, rebukes her male relatives on several accounts, arranges her son's marriage, and directs his household after his death.

According to the Liènt zhuàn, Jing Jiang was the wife of Gongfu Mùbó 公夫穆伯, the mother of Gongfu Wénbó 公夫文伯, and the paternal grandaunt of Jì Kāngzǐ 季康子. Widowed young, she raised her son and instructed him, his concubines, and her paternal grandnephew. Within the Liènu zhuàn, her life story (LNZ 1.9) appears in the chapter titled "Maternal Rectitude" (mǔ yí 母儀), and contains five narrative elements, in some cases of several parts each.3 (Correlations between the narrative elements in the Liènt zhuòn and other texts appear in table 11.1).

The first narrative element describes the early death of Gongfu Mubó and Jing Jiāng's raising and reprimanding her young son Wénbó with examples of illustrious men of past dynasties. It closely corresponds to the account in the Guó yú. The second narrative consists of two discourses on weaving. The third describes

TABLE 11.1

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		3,9:24b	20:69	92		1.1
		3,7.210				
		3, 9:24b				
		3, 7.2.2				
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				1:7b	9.41.1	3a
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her admonitions to the adult Gongfü Wénbó for a lapse in propriety in the treatment of a guest, and the fourth, her admonitions to Wénbó's concubines after his death. The fifth, which has three parts, indicates her understanding of and propriety in the performance of ritual, especially her understanding of the separation of men and women. All these narratives take the form of admonitions: to her son (elements 1, 2, and 3), to his concubines (element 4), and to Jì Kangzǐ (element 5). The second narrative element consists of two discourses in which she draws an analogy between weaving and government. Because of the importance of these analogies, I translate and discuss them at length.

1. WEAVING AND GOVERNMENT

A striking example of her style of instruction to her grown son is a detailed analogy between government office and the apparatus of weaving. Unlike most of the narratives about Jing Jiang, this story appears only in the Liènu zhuàn:

When Wénbó was minister in Lu, Jìng Jiāng said to him: I will inform you about what is important in governing a country; it is entirely in the warp (jīng 經). The selvedge [the straight border of woven cloth] (fú 幅) is the means by which you straighten what is twisted and crooked. It must be strong, therefore the selvedge can be considered as the General (jiàng 將). The pattern (huà 畫) evens what is uneven and reconciles what is not adjusted. Therefore the pattern can be the Director (zhèng 正).4 Now the realization (wù zhě 物者) [of the pattern] is the means by which you rule tendrils and align cords (chi wu yu mò 治蕪與莫). Therefore the realization can be Prefect of the Capital (du dùifu 都大夫) The thing that can pass firmly from hand to hand without loss and go in and out without interruption is the shuttle (kǐn 捆). The shuttle can be Director of Messengers (dà xíng 大行). That which you push when you make it go and pull when you make it come is the heddles (zong 綜). The heddles can be the Regional Mentor of Guan Nei (guān nèi zhī shī 關內之師). The one that regulates the numbers of great and small is the reed comb (jīm 均). The reed comb can be the Royal Annalist (nei shǐ 內史). The one who can fill an important office, travel a long road, and is upright, genuine and firm is the axle (zhú 軸). The axle can be deemed Minister (xiàng 相). The one that is inexhaustible in unfolding is the warp beam (加福 搞). The warp beam can be the Three Dukes (son gong). Wénbó bowed to her repeatedly and received her instruction. (LNZ 1:7a-b)

This passage makes an analogy between eight offices and eight parts of a loom. The analogy is detailed and coherent. It begins with the General, who determines the edge and shape of the fabric, and keeps it in formation. The Director sets the overall shape of the weaving. The analogy is to a pattern or painted design that is copied onto the cloth; this pattern determines the design even if the weaver does not know it.5 The Prefect of the Capital imposes order on disorder, and governs "wild" areas, as well as the city. The Director of Messengers sends his envoys back and forth, without interruption or damage, like the shuttle. The Regional Mentor of Guan Nei, a liaison officer, ensures that the way is clear, like the heddles, which separates the sections of the warp through which the shuttle will pass. ⁷ The Royal Annalist, like the impartial and evenly ordered teeth of the reed comb, makes accurate discriminations in the sorting of information—an interesting tacit comparison of weaving and text-and "combs" the silk of the warp, thus keeping it straight and untangled. In the same way, the Royal Annalist, by recording events from year to year, orders events. His judgments of what is worthy of inclusion are like the number of teeth in the reed comb, which determines the density of thread in the weave.8 The Minister, like the axle, is responsible, enduring, upright and firm, and guides the kingdom by these qualities. This was Wénbó's own position at the time. The Three Dukes, like the warp beam, are endless in their virtue and ability. The warp beam gathers up the unused warp and holds it evenly in place.9

Jing Jiang claims an analogy between government and weaving on two bases. One is a correspondence between the importance of government for men and of weaving for women. The other is that government and weaving each consists of component functions, all of which must be performed adequately and correctly for the activity to succeed. The requisites for each component are particular and specialized. For cloth to be woven effectively, the component parts of the loom must be adequate to their various functions, which differ from each other, and demand different qualities. For example, the reed comb must be notched finely enough to separate hundreds of threads; the warp beam must be strong enough to bear the tension of all of them wound around it. A reed comb would make a terrible warp beam, and vice versa. Similarly, if a state is to be governed effectively, the component offices must be staffed by men whose excellences are those required by the specialized tasks of the offices.

Jing Jiang is claiming that her son does not understand government and that she herself is competent to instruct him in the appointment of officials. When Wénbó bows and accepts her teaching, he also presumably accepts her premises. It is noteworthy that neither the text nor its various commentaries remark on where she learned to understand the analogy in detail.

2. WEAVING AND WORK

The second part of the second narrative element is an admonition to Wénbó when he urges her to desist from personally performing the labor of spinning and weaving, as beneath her. She upbraids him with the examples of the illustrious queens of the past, in the following terms. Jing Jiang predicts that Lu will perish because mere children who have never heard of the Way serve in office. She explains that the sage kings were able to rule for long periods because they, their wives, and their people were all hardworking. According to her argument, the kings lodged their people on hard land and tired them out; tired people are reflective (on their burdens), and as a result, their people grew good hearts. By contrast, farmers of rich lands live in luxury, become licentious, forget good, and grow evil hearts. Barren lands make people hardworking and righteous. The ancient kings worked hard, as did their feudal lords, ministers, and retainers, and the commoners in their realms. Similarly, their queens and the wives of their feudal lords, ministers, and retainers also worked hard at their proper work. They made caps, belts, and clothing for court use and sacrifice, and the commoners' wives clothed their husbands. Thus, men and women each had duties. Jing Jiang reprimands her son for suggesting that she abandon labor and live in luxury; such a suggestion shows that he is careless of his ancestors and will certainly be the

These stories appear to contradict statements in the Li jì that call for the strict end of his family line. separation of the affairs of men and women: "Men must not speak of internal affairs; women must not speak of external matters. . . . What is said in the inner quarters does not emerge from them; what is said in the outside world does not enter them."10 Yet the discourses on weaving end by stating that Confucius heard of her conduct and commented to his disciples about it:

When Zhong Ni heard of it, he said: Disciples, note! The woman of the Ji was not licentious. The Odes' saying Women have no public charge, but tend their silkworms and their looms means that a woman has public charge by virtue of her weaving and spinning. If she leaves them, she contravenes the rites.11

This section corresponds to the Guó yǔ story "Gongfu Wenbo's Mother Discourses on Work and Self-indulgence," and to a passage in the Kŏngzĭ jiāyǔ.12 The Guó yǔ and Kŏngzǐ jiāyǔ versions include the comment of Confucius, but not his quotation from the Odes. The story also has distinct affinities with the story of Meng mu, the mother of Mengzi, whose admonition to her young son is also based on the premise that women and men have distinctly separate, but exactly analogous,

The next broad area of praise for Jing Jiang of Lu is in her knowledge of various duties, and obligations.13 forms of ritual, including the treatment of guests, marriage, mourning, and the separation of men and women.

3. GUEST RITUAL

In the third narrative of the Liènt zhuòn, Jìng Jiāng upbraids Wénbó for merely adhering to the letter, and not the full performance, of correct treatment of a guest.

Gongfu Wenbo feasted Nangong Jingshu with drink; and Lu Dufu was a guest. He [Wénbó] provided a tortoise, but it was small. Dufu

became angry, and when they were going to eat the tortoise, he declined, saying: "I'll eat the tortoise after you make it grow larger" and departed. When Wenbo's mother heard about it, she grew angry and said: "I have heard my ancestor say: 'In making sacrifice you provide for the dead; at a banquet you provide for the head guest.' What's all this about tortoises? And now you have made him angry." And she drove him away. Five days later, the Lu minister intervened and she called him back.14

This story appears in the Guó yǔ as "Gongfu Wenbo Feasts Nangong Jingshu with Wine."15 It stands in considerable contradiction to passages in the Li ji, suggesting that men made judgments on the basis of merit, whereas women were governed by emotion and affection: "Here now is the affection of a father for his sons;—he loves the worthy among them and places on a lower level those who do not show ability; but that of a mother for them is such, that while she loves the worthy, she pities those who do not show ability:—the mother deals with them on the ground of affection and not of showing them honour; the father, on the ground of showing them honour and not of affection."16

One way to reconcile this apparent divergence is to view Jing Jiang's admonition as a substitute for that of an absent father. Nevertheless, her capacity to make judgments on the basis of merit remains unexplained.

MARRIAGE

The Guó yǔ story "Gongfu Wenbo's Mother Plans a Marriage for Wenbo" (which does not occur in the Liènt zhuàn) attests to the nature and scope of her abilities, underscores her expertise in ritual and poetic quotation, and shows her ability to use both effectively without violating propriety: "Gongfu Wenbo's mother wanted to find a wife for Wénbó. She feasted the clan elders, and recited the third line of the 'Luyi' fu. The elders requested the diviners to prognosticate the [prospective] wife's clan. When Shi Hai heard about it he said 'Ah! In a feast of men and women, she did not remain with the clan officials; in planning a marriage for the clan, she never went beyond the clan. She planned, but did not transgress; she was subtle, but made matters clear. The poem was the means by which she unified their intentions."17

This story attests to her literary education, her skill in poetic quotation, and her ability to act effectively to achieve her ends without violating the proprieties of clan life. Indeed, she is praised for doing so. In several other accounts, Jing Jiang admonishes others who act as moral agents. This story is of particular interest because it portrays Jing Jiang herself as an active moral agent. It shows her using poetic quotation, both to express her own views and to unify the intentions of others, a mode of behavior frequently used by ministers to put their views forward to a superior. 18 The story is also an unusual case of a woman being able to affect the marriage of a son or daughter. Although women in Warring States G THE NEW

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and Han times frequently had a say in the marriage of grandchildren, they rarely had the ability to determine the marriage of their immediate progeny.¹⁹

This anecdote also provides an interesting reflection on the Lǐ jì account of the education of boys and girls: "At six years [children] were taught the names of the numbers and the cardinal points. At seven years boys and girls did not [sit on] the same mat or eat together. At eight years when they go in and out of doors and gates, proceed to their mats, and eat and drink, they must follow behind their elders. This is the beginning of instruction in deference (rang). At nine, they were taught the numbering of the days. At ten they go out to an outside master, and stay with him and sleep outside [the home]. They study writing and calculation."²⁰

The passage describes instruction in reading, polite conversation, music, the Odes, dancing, archery, and charioteering. It presumably applies to boys, but there is no such specification. The Rites does specify that: "As for girls, at ten they do not go out. Governesses teach them to be docile and obedient," to handle hemp, silkworms, women's work, weaving, the preparation of foods, and to assist at sacrifices. ²¹ This passage specifies the skills that girls were required to learn. The Lǐ jì describes the proper ages for particular instructions, but does not explicitly restrict education according to gender, or explicitly restrict education and literacy to boys.

5. MOURNING

Three narratives about Jing Jiang's knowledge of mourning involve the death of her son Wénbó; three others involve her nephew Ji Kangzi. Various accounts of her behavior after the death of Wénbó appear in a number of Warring States and Han compendia. The Liènu zhuàn, Guó yu, Li ji, Hán Shì wàizhuàn, and Kǒngzi jiāyu all describe versions of her unusual conduct after Wénbó's death, but with differing emphases.

Several texts present versions of Jing Jiang's instructions to Wénbó's concubines after his death. ²² According to the Lièni zhuèn, "I have heard that if a man is too fond of the inner [his wives] he dies for women, and if he is too fond of the outer [affairs of state], he dies for scholars (shi). Now my son has died young, and I would hate it to be said of him that he was too fond of the inner." She urges them to mourn, but not excessively, and ends by saying that they can best illuminate the reputation of her son by following the rites and being calm.

So far, all the versions of the narrative agree. They diverge when they come to Confucius' comment on her behavior. In the Lièni zhuòn and Kŏngzi jiāyū versions, when Confucius hears her mourning instructions to Wénbó's concubines he remarks, "A girl never understands as much as a woman; a youth never understands as much as a man; the wisdom of Gongfu's wife was none other than this! She wishes to brighten her son's bright virtue."²³

the analogy are unclear. One possibility is simple analogy based on age (with the implication of maturity and marriage). An adult (woman or man) knows more than a child (boy or girl); Gongfu's wife is like an adult. The other possibility is a two-step analogy based on age and gender. A girl knows less than a woman; a woman knows less than a man; Gongfu's wife is like a man in her knowledge.

There is no ambiguity in the Guó yǔ narrative "Gongfu Wenbo's Mother Admonishes His Concubines after His Death": "A girl never understands as much as a woman; a youth never understands as much as a man; the knowledge of Gongfu's wife is that of a man! She wishes to make bright her son's bright virtue [italics added]."24 The Guó yǔ passage probably predates not only the Liènữ zhuòn and Kǒngzǐ jiữyǔ versions, but also the Lunyu itself. We can only speculate on the reasons for diluting the force of the analogy in the later accounts of the incident versions. It is interesting that the Guó yǔ version is so clear on this point.

Another version of these events appears in the Li ji, which describes the actual mourning for Wénbó. In this account, during the mourning, Jing Jiang touched the couch where his body lay, but did not weep, and remarked that, although she had never seen his conduct at court, she knew it must be wanting, because the ministers did not weep for him, whereas his women cried their voices away.²⁵ An unrelated passage in the Li ji also attests to Jing Jiang's keen eye for ritual decorum. The story describes an incident at the funeral of Ji Kangzi's mother. It attests to Jing Jiang's expertise in mourning ritual, not, perhaps, without some sarcasm: "When Ji Kangzi's mother died, her underclothes were visible. Jing Jiang said: 'If a wife is not adorned [properly clothed], she does not dare be seen by her husband's parents. There will be guests coming from all four quarters; why are her underclothes showing?' Whereupon she gave orders that they be removed [from sight]."26

Another narrative about the style of her mourning for Wénbó in the years after his death is also framed by a remark of Confucius. In the Liènu zhuàn version, when he heard that, living in mourning, she mourned her late husband in the morning and her dead son in the evening, Confucius declared that she knew the li and the separation of higher and lower.27

II. Confucius on Women Who Understood the Rites

The story of Jing Jiang is one of two in the Liènt zhuàn in which Confucius comments on the behavior of a woman as "understanding the rites." The stories differ considerably in the status of the woman, Confucius' presumed acquaintance with her, and how the text refers to him. Before turning to the question of Confucius' praise of her, it is worth noting that one version of the "Mourning" narrative centers on Jing Jiang's praise of Confucius, and corresponding dis-praise of her own son. She is also one of several specifically didactic mothers in the Liènu zhuòn. with ows. pos-

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Clearly legendary examples include Jiang Yuan the mother of Hou Ji, Jian Di the mother of Xie, the Tu Shan girl, You Shen the wife of King Tang, and Tai Si the wife of King Wu, who trained her ten sons during their youth. Jing Jiang, like Mèng Mǔ, was a "didactic widow," a woman widowed at a young age who took on the didactic "male" role and excelled in the education of her son.

Jìng Jiāng on Confucius

不是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人的,我们就是一个人的,我们就是一个人的,我们就是一个人的,我们就是一个人的,我们就是一个人的,我们就是一个人的,我们就 The Hán Shì wàizhuàn elaborates the story of Jìng Jiāng's failure to mourn for Wénbó in a different way, one that suggests a direct connection between her and Confucius. In this version, after Wénbó's death, someone noticed that Wénbó's mother did not weep. Because she was known to be a virtuous woman, he concluded that Wénbó must have been at fault somehow, and sent to ask her about it. This account provides a fairly unusual instance of a woman being asked directly to explain her own conduct. She precedes her explanation with the following remarks: "Formerly I had this son of mine serve Zhòng Nǐ. When Zhòng Nǐ left Lǔ, my son did not go beyond the suburbs of the capital in sending him off; in making him presents, he did not give him the family's precious objects."28 In this version we learn three things: that Wénbó was a student of Confucius (he does not appear in the Analects), that he was sent to Confucius by his mother, and that he was less than wholehearted in his behavior toward his teacher.

This implicit criticism of Wénbó also appears in the Zhànguó cè, where "the story of Wenbo's mother" is used as a rhetorical trope, to show how the attitudes of listeners depend on their assessment of the speaker. Here, Lou Huan of Qin uses the story to avoid giving advice to the King of Zhao on Zhao's prospects after a defeat by Qin. In this version, Wénbó's (former) wet nurse asks Jing Jiang how she can forbear to mourn for her son. Her response is to criticize Wénbó in the strongest terms. "Confucius was a sage, and when he was driven from Lu this man did not follow him. Now he is dead and sixteen women of his household have killed themselves to honour him. If this is the way it is, then he must have treated worthy men lightly but treated his women well."29 Lou Huan ends by remarking that these words sound righteous when spoken by a mother, but would seem mere jealousy if spoken by a wife: "In truth the words would be the same but when the speaker is different, the attitude of the listener is changed. Now I have just come from Qin, but if I say, 'don't give the towns' it would be no plan at all; yet if I say, 'give the towns,' I am afraid your majesty will say I am doing it for Qin. This is why I said I dare not answer you." 30

The Zhànguó cè version, which has little to do with the actual story of Jing Jiang of Lu, emphasizes the different roles of mother and wife: a mother's admonitions bear the stamp of propriety, a wife's merely of jealousy. It also shows that she could and did assess her son, not on the "feminine" basis of affection (implicit, for example, in the wet nurse's question in the Zhànguó cè version), but on the basis of his merit. It is of some interest that the story represents her, a woman, as knowing of Confucius and assessing him as a sage, presumably during his own lifetime.

The good opinion is also clearly mutual. In these narratives, Confucius praises "the woman of the Ji" for admonishing Wénbó (the discourse on weaving) during his life, for "brightening" his virtue by refusing to mourn him at the time of his death, and for understanding of ritual and hierarchy by mourning both husband and son continually after their deaths (see table 11.1). At the heart of all this praise is Jing Jiāng's unremitting, indeed relentless, efforts at "improvement." Several things about this "improvement" are noteworthy. In his admonitions to his disciples and in his statements about himself, Confucius constantly emphasizes that self-cultivation is a necessary prerequisite to the instruction of others. In the case of Jing Jiāng, however, Confucius shows no explicit interest in any effort she may have made at cultivating herself; his praise is confined entirely to her instruction of her son. The implication is that at least women, presumably mothers, are capable of effective teaching without explicit self-cultivation! An extraordinary gendering of virtue!

Any number of Warring States and Han narratives portray Confucius or his disciples commenting favorably on Jing Jiāng's actions and expertise. Why does she receive so much attention in these texts? Her husband and father are not widely attested as important personages. I speculate that one reason is the quite direct association with Confucius and his disciples. Several accounts specify contact between him and Wénbó, possibly at her instigation. Thus, when Confucius is said to have "heard of her conduct," it was probably at no great remove. Confucius seems to express strong approval of her conduct as a combination of efficacy and propriety. Confucius, like Jing Jiāng herself, seems to describe women's work—weaving and sericulture—as equivalent to public affairs. Yet given the context, it is noteworthy that his comment does not suggest that women should be ignorant of statecraft. Indeed, his praise reflects the propriety of the manner in which she deployed her knowledge.

The life story of Jing Jiang never explicitly states that she was taught to read, to recite fu, to master the principles that underlie statecraft or ritual propriety, but the details of the stories about her—and even Confucius' praise of her—attest to the mastery of all these skills. Stories in four Warring States texts provide a variety of details about her life, yet all agree on the kind of expertise they portray.

2. The Girl of Agu

The other woman praised by Confucius as "understanding the rites" in the Liènǚ zhuàn is "The Girl of Agu" 阿谷處女 (LNZ 6.6). Whereas Jìng Jiāng of Lǔ is a "Righteous Mother," the girl of Agu exemplifies "Skill in Argument" (LNZ 6) in a chapter that includes several cases of skillful arguments by commoners, both in the form of persuasions made to rulers and in arguments made within the course of their own quotidian interactions. Here, Confucius notices a washerwoman on

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the road to Agu, and remarks to Zigong that she is capable with words (kě yǔ yán 可與言). He suggests that they observe her intentions (guàn qí zhì 觀其志), and gives Zigong a cup (to ask for water), a lute (to drive away pigs), and linen cloth (as a betrothal gift). When Zigong asks her for water, she conforms to the prescriptions of the Li ji by placing it on the ground, rather than handing it to him directly. When he asks her to tune the lute, she claims not to know the five tones. When he tries to woo her, she refuses him politely. After the encounter, Confucius describes her to Zigong as "penetrating about human affairs" (dá yú rén qíng 達於人情) and "understanding the rites" (加 [知禮).31 This story also occurs in the Hán Shì wàizhuàn (1:3) and Kŏng cóngzĭ.

3. CONFUCIUS AND FEMALE EDUCATION

In the story of the girl at Agu, Confucius already has the accourrements of a teacher, if not a sage. He is referred to by the honorific title of Kǒngzǐ 孔子, and is accompanied by a disciple. It is Zigong, rather than Confucius, who speaks with the girl, and it is Zigong, rather than the girl, who is the object of instruction. Both men are clearly her social and hierarchical superiors. (Once again, the story does not occur in the Analects.)

Defenders of Confucius against charges of elitism have often pointed out that Confucius had students who were poor, most notably Yan Hui, and his inclusion of poor, but worthy, men among his students certainly suggests that he thought any man could practice self-cultivation. These narratives show a more ambiguous record in the case of women. In these accounts, Jing Jiang of Lu and the girl of Agu are clear cases of women of whose behavior, and whose understanding, Confucius clearly approves, albeit in different contexts and for different reasons. On this score, we might be tempted to extend his "spiritual" openhandedness to women. Yet it is noteworthy that, although Confucius approves of both women, he treats them as objects, rather than subjects of instruction. (He does not "objectify" them insofar as he considers them moral agents, but he does use then as "object lessons" for his male disciples.) His remarks are addressed to his students, not to the women whose examples he uses for their instruction.

Does propriety prevent his instructing women? I argue that it does not. The Li jì notwithstanding, Warring States texts show many cases of instruction, admonition, and argument between unrelated men and women, and Confucius shows no reticence in having Zigong speak directly with the girl at Agu. In these instances, it is to his male students that Confucius stands in a benefactor/beneficiary relation, and in his interactions with women Confucius is a superior, but not a benefactor.32 Although these instances are two few to provide any certainty, they do provide the uncomfortable suggestion that Confucius' views on human perfectibility and self-cultivation may have spanned social class, but not gender.

In both these stories, Confucius has sufficient respect for the understanding of

of his male disciples. In Jing Jiang's case, he hears of her by reputation, and, as I argue below, may have direct acquaintance with her. In the case of the girl of Agu, he is already on his travels, and perceives her virtues in a direct encounter.

4. CONFUCIUS AND THE JI LINEAGE

It is well known that Confucius was used as a mouthpiece for a range of late Warring States and Han dynasty views, for example in the Zhuangzi and Hanfeizi. These accounts of Confucius' praise of a virtuous female aristocrat, Jing Jiāng of Lǔ, and a virtuous female commoner, the girl of Agu, raise questions of historicity that revolve around two issues. One objection to their historical veracity is textual. If Wénbó had been a disciple of Confucius, we would expect him to be mentioned in the Analects, and he is not. Second, the accounts of Confucius' praise of Jing Jiāng refer to him by his style as Zhòng Ní 仲尼, suggesting a relatively late date. By contrast, in the story of the lower-class washerwoman of Agu, he is referred to by the honorific title "Kǒngzǐ," but later collectors and commentators question the attribution of this incident to Confucius. In a passage in the Kong congzi, the Prince of Pingyuan asks Zigao about the tradition that Confucius had had words with a washerwoman. Zigao replies that "the Agu story is of recent origin, probably concocted by those who use that sort of thing to give currency to their ideas." They

The Jing Jiang of Lu stories are less easily dismissed, for several reasons. They appear repeatedly in the Guó yǔ, a text that probably predates the Analects in compilation.34 Despite the silence of the Analects, other accounts suggest that Wénbó was an unsuccessful student of Confucius, before he was driven out of Lu. How historically plausible is the claim that there was a direct connection between Confucius and Jing Jiang? Given a number of significant interactions with the Ji lineage in the received accounts of the life of Confucius, I speculate that there may have been a very direct connection between Jing Jiang and Confucius, which appears only indirectly in the Andlects through its accounts of his interactions with male members of the Ji lineage. I further speculate that Confucius's praise of her may reflect his changing attitudes toward the Ji lineage and his relations with two ministers of Lu, father and son, Ji Huanzi and Ji Kangzi. The Analects, Mengzi, and Zuo zhuan present several incidents, early in Confucius' career, in which he comments negatively on the Ji lineage, on the behavior of Ji Huanzi as minister of Lú, and on Yang Hu, a close associate of the Ji lineage. The Analects also presents any number of accounts of more positive conversations between Confucius and Ji Huanzi's son Ji Kangzi, who became Minister of Lu in 494 B.C.E., with the accession of Duke Ai. These events are summarized in table 11.2.35

The Ji lineage was one of three (the Ji, Shu, and Meng) that maintained close connections to the ducal house, and were able to hold the rulers of the state of Lu in some degree of dependency. In the Analots (3.1–2), Confucius condemns both the Ji family and the Three Families as usurpers of authority. Nonetheless,

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TABLE 11.2 CONFUCIUS AND THE JI LINEAGE

	MINISTER		INCIDENT	TEXTUAL SOURCES
DUKE Zhao	[Ji Daozi]	541 509	Jì Pingzĭ becomes head of Ji	Zuo, Zhao 12
Ji Ping	Ji Pingzi	529	lineage	LY 3:1-2, 6, 10-11
		517	Confucius criticizes the Ji Three families seize power in Lu	
		516-510	Duke Zhao flees to Qi, as does	
		516	Confucius	
	515	Confucius returns to Lu, without office		
		510	death of Duke Zhao, heir bypassed	
Ding		509	Ding, a member of ducal house, named Duke	
505 Ji Huanzi 505– 501	505	death of Jì Pingzi Yang Hu imprisons Jì Huánzi	Zuo, Ding 5 LY 17:1	
		and usurps power in Lǔ, criticized by Confucius	Meng 3B7	
	Ji Huanzi	505-492	of Three Families, Yang	IY 17.5
	501	Hu flees to Qi, invites confuciated to join him Confucius appointed	d Zuo Ding 1 Meng 5B4, 6B6	
	500	sikou in Lù disagreement with Jì Huánzi over criminal case Zilu and Ziyu enter service of the Ji		
		497	Jì Huángzi Confucius leaves Lǔ for Wei after present of girls to Jì Huánzi	LY 17:4 Meng 6B6
Ai	Ji Kanga	zi 494	Confucius returns to Lu	LY 11:17
		484	Jì Kāngzi consults him on	Meng 4A14 ZuoZS 58:27a-b
		484-1	taxation	LY 6:8 10:16 11: 12:17 12:18 12:
		479	death of Confucius	

Confucius himself seems to have been a dependent of the Ji. In 517 B.C.E., during the reign of Duke Zhao, he criticized the Ji family after the performance of the di sacrifice in the temple of Duke Xiang. As the three powerful families of Ji, Shu, and Meno gained nower, he fled Lu for Qi, along with Duke Zhao. He returned 288

had succeeded to the throne of Lu, and Ji Huanzi was minister in Lu. Confucius assumed the office of sikou under Ji Huanzi, and, according to tradition, came into a difference of opinion with him over a legal case and left Lǔ as a result Ji Huanzi's conduct. ³⁶Thus Confucius' initial interactions with the Ji family seem to have been critical.

In 494, Duke Ai acceded to the throne of Lu and Ji Kangzi succeeded his father Ji Huanzi as minister of Lu. The Analects and Mengzi present a number of accounts of conversations between Confucius, Duke Ai, and Ji Kangzi, all of which presumably occurred between Confucius' return to Lu in 484, ten years after Ji Kangzi's ministry, and his death in 479. These conversations between Confucius and Ji Kangzi are far friendlier in tone. According to the Analects, Ji Kangzi consulted Confucius on the qualifications of the officials Zhong You and [Ran] Qiu (6:8), made him a gift of medicine (10:16), asked him about learning and his disciples (11:7, a discussion of Yan Hui), about thieves (12:18), and about government (12:17, 19). The latter is the famous statement that "the virtue of the gentleman is like wind; the virtue of the small man is like grass. Let the wind blow over the grass and it is sure to bend." 37

In summary, Confucius was, to some degree, a contemporary of several generations of the Ji lineage. He was born shortly after the death of Jì Wénzǐ 季文子 (Jìsūn Hángfù 季孫行父, d. 566). His life spanned those of Jì Wùzǐ 季武子 (Jìsūn Sù 季孫宿, d. 534), his son Jì Dàozǐ 季悼子 (d. 529), his son Jì Píngzǐ 季平子 (Jìsūn Yìrú 季孫意如 or Yǐnrú 隱如, d. 504), his son Jì Huánzǐ 季桓子 (Jìsūn Sī 季孫斯, d. 491), and his son Jì Kāngzǐ 季康子 (Jìsūn 季孫, d. 467). We know him to be a direct acquaintance of both Jì Huánzǐ and Jì Kāngzǐ.

According to the Liènu zhuàn, Jing Jiang was the wife of the younger brother of Jì Kāngzi's paternal grandfather (his zòngzǔ shúmǔ 從組叔母.)39 Gōngfū Mùbó thus would be a younger brother of Jì Píngzǐ (d. 505 B.C.E.), the son of Jì Dàozǐ. This genealogy would make Jì Dàozǐ the grandfather of Wénbó and the greatgrandfather of Jì Kangzǐ. It is consistent with commentaries that refer to Jì Daòzǐ as Jìng Jiang's father-in-law and Jì Kangzi's great-grandfather. 40 Thus, we might estimate her birth as circa 540 B.C.E., and the birth of Wénbó some time between 525 and 515. These dates are consistent with Wénbó being a student of Confucius for a brief period between 501 and 497, when he left Lǔ for Wèi. By this reckoning, the story of Jing Jiang's sending her son to Confucius as a student is historically credible. Given Confucius' brief tutelage of Wénbó and the latter's lackluster record and early departure, it is no surprise that he does not appear in the Analects. Further, if Jì Kangzi was an associate of both Confucius and Jìng Jiang, it is plausible that Confucius might have met her, or at least heard of her exploits in detail, from a great-nephew who clearly held a great deal of respect (and fear) for her.

The Gúo yǔ, Liènǚ zhuèn, and Hán Shì wàizhuèn all support this dating of Jìng Jiāng as a contemporary of Confucius. The Zuo zhuan contains a separate account of a Mùbó of Lǔ, who marries a woman named Dài Jǐ 戴己 of Jǔ 莒, whose son Wénbó

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succeeded Mùbó in office in Lǔ. These details all appear in the Liènữ zhuàn life story of Jing Jiang, but the events described in the Zuo zhuan take place between 640 and 612 B.C.E, some one hundred and fifty years before the life of Ji Kangzi. Closer examination reveals that the Zuŏ zhuòn and Gúo yǔ (and later) narratives refer to different sets of individuals. Nevertheless, the similarities in names and places provide interesting insights into how the Liènt zhuàn life story may have been constructed. That information is discussed in the appendix, below.

The foregoing account of Confucius' association with Jing Jiang also sheds light on his changing relations with the Ji family. His initial criticisms of Ji Huanzi and Yang Hu have now mellowed into a far more positive attitude toward Jì Kangzǐ, and, perhaps, through him, for the entire family. In this light, Confucius' repeated praise of "the woman of the Ji" (Ji shì zhī fù 季氏之婦) is all the more striking, in that it exemplifies this new attitude. His respect for the Ji family is now so great that he uses Jing Jiang as an example to instruct his disciples!*1

III. Later Lives of Jing Jiang

Confucius praises Jing Jiang (and the girl of Agu) for knowledge of the rites. These narratives show a tension between Jing Jiang's unmistakable expertise in learning, politics, and ritual, and Confucius's praise of her, which is directed toward her knowledge of ritual and cultivation of her son, but not of herself. Confucius' good opinion seems to ignore striking aspects of her actual talents and behavior: her expertise in argument and analogy. This aspect of Jing Jiang's virtue all but disappears in later depictions of her in Song Neo-Confucian texts and Ming illustrated editions of the Lièni zhuàn. In the next section I explore a second range of narratives that clearly portray Jing Jiang as an expert participant in the delineation of the separate spheres of men and women.

1. THE SEPARATION OF MEN AND WOMEN

The last two sections of the Liènt zhuàn narrative describe admonitions to Jì Kāngzǐ after Wénbó's death, when Jìng Jiang had remained with the Ji family. These narratives specifically stress her understanding of the "separate spheres" of men and women. In the first, Jì Kangzi repeatedly tried to speak with her, first at court, then at the gate of her house. She entered without speaking to him, and he followed her and asked how he had offended her. She replies,

Have you not heard? The son of Heaven and the assembled princes manage the affairs of the people in the [outer court and manage the affairs of the spirits in the] inner court. From the prime minister down, official matters are deliberated in the outer court and domestic court, you attend to the responsibilities of lords and officials; in the inner court, you attend to the business of the Ji. Of these things it is not for me to venture to speak.⁴²

Jing Jiāng emphasizes that women govern and hold office within the household. Her account breaks down government functions to an outer and an inner sphere: the outer sets the duties of state officials; the inner administers the Ji family. When Jì Kāngzǐ follows her to her door and attempts to visit her, she speaks to him but does not allow him past the threshold. She performs sacrifices for Jì Dàozǐ (her father-in-law), and Jì Kāngzǐ assists. She does not personally receive the sacrificial meats or stay for the feast, and would only sacrifice if all the clan officials were present. Confucius described her as knowing how to distinguish the lǐ of women from the lǐ of men. 43

Both Jing Jiang's account of the li of men and women and Confucius' praise of her for it raise questions about the extent to which such separations were maintained during Warring States and early Han times, even by conservative "Confucians." For all her defense of the gender system, many of her actions seem to break down the very gender separations her words advocate. For example, Jing Jiang personally offers sacrifice when mourning her son Wénbó. Other Lièni zhuèn accounts show women as active in sacrifice and divination, performing sacrifice directly or supervising it. 44

Despite Lǐ jì prescriptions that the concerns and activities of men and women should differ, there is considerable evidence that the activities of women of all classes overlapped considerably with those of their male relatives. Weaving, the paradigmatic women's work, was typically done within the home for use within the home; even aristocratic women such as Jìng Jiāng wove and spun. Widows and other women also engaged in weaving and the care of silkworms as a livelihood. Women engaged in other occupations outside the home; they worked in the fields with their husbands, and were expert at the occupations of their husbands or fathers. Erudite and expert women gave instruction outside their homes and were recognized for their wisdom, technical expertise and erudition. They participated in political life, both by actual presence at court and by indirect influence. Other accounts of female expertise include agriculture, archery, astronomy, divination, ferrying, funerary rites, and physiognomy, as well as general skills of prediction, interpretation, the quotation of poetry, knowledge of ritual, and the composition of eulogies and petitions.

In sum, Jing Jiang is portrayed as an exemplary woman whose words seem to uphold the gender system of separation of men and women, but whose actions undermine traditional prohibitions against women's concern with politics or matters external to the home. Warring States and Han accounts of her preserve this tension. Jing Jiang is a prominent figure in Song and Ming accounts of women's virtue. They portray her entirely as an exemplar of the gender system, and completely de-emphasize her intellectual acumen and decisiveness.

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2. Neo-Confucian Views on Female Education

 $Zh\bar{u}$ $X\bar{i}$ emphasized intellectual aspects of the separation, stressing the dangers of women's participation in political life, and stressing that women should "never initiate affairs or take action on their own."48 He encouraged education for women, within the proper limits of moral tracts and directed toward the proper goals of assisting a husband.49 Zhū Xī's (1130-1200) Xiǎo xué 小學 or Elementary Learning articulated what was to become a standard position on women: "A wife is one who bends to the will of another and so her rectitude lies in not following her own will."50 This work draws extensively on the "Nei ze" or "Domestic Regulations" chapter of the Li ji.51 It is organized by life cycle, not by virtues. Its instructions to girls, wives, and mothers draw heavily on the Li jì, and emphasize prohibitions against remarriage, the importance of the physical separation of men and women, and filiality to mothers-in-law. 52 It quotes the Liènii zhuòn to emphasize the importance of instruction, including prenatal instruction, and the maintenance of separate spheres: the physical, social, and intellectual separation of men and women. Zhū Xī includes the examples of the mothers of King Wen and Mengzi as examples of the instruction of sons. He uses Jing Jiang, whom he calls "the aunt of Jì Kangzǐ," as a model of separate spheres. 53 Zhū Xī emphasizes the need to keep women away from political life, and criticizes self-willed women.54 Although he stresses the importance of women as teachers, this stress on moral education was in the interest of filiality, including the submission of wife to husband.55

3. MING EDITIONS

The Liènt zhuèn style of narrative was adopted and transformed on a wide scale. Beginning with the Standard History of the Later Han, a chapter of exemplary biographies of women (liènu 列女) began to appear in the "Collected Biographies" sections of dynastic histories. These works, however, varied considerably in their definitions of virtue and the kind of women they selected for their exemplary biographies. It was also a popular subject for illustration from an early period. Pictorial work based upon it ranged from scrolls, screens, and illustrated books to wall and tomb decorations.56

Over time, however, the original arguments for the importance of women and some of the most important original criteria for deeming them exemplary were lost or transformed. Starting with the Later Han, collected biographies of virtuous women (liènǚ 列女) were included in dynastic histories. Over the course of time, the criteria for this official recognition of female virtue changed considerably. The liènt of the dynastic history of the Later Han resembled those of the Liènt zhuàn but the self-sacrificing chastity obsessed, and anolitical liènt of the Ming editions reflected a Ming cultural vocabulary, in which the husband-wife relationship was moved to the foreground. The result was a considerable increase in numbers of suicides in Ming writings, and a corresponding diminution of "nononsense girls who argued with kings; in their place is a repertoire of expressions of fidelity to the husband's lineage (widow suicide, widow fidelity, heroic service to parents-in-law), and (through resistance to rape by invaders) fidelity to the empire, the family writ large. The strong-minded women in these Ming expansions are now likely to be mothers, who bring sons, rather than rulers, to their senses, and reprove them for any hint of venality or immorality."58

A brief survey of the portrayal of Jing Jiang in four illustrated editions shows important contrasts between (Ming redactions of) Song dynasty editions, and Ming appropriations of the story of Jing Jiang. 59 The Wénxuánlóu and Sìbù cóngkan editions, which, for purposes of this discussion, I call Han-Song editions, are organized in chapters titled by six virtues. 60 To these I contrast two Ming dynasty editions: Lũ Kun's Gũi fàn (1618) and the Hùitú liềnỗ zhuồn, published during the Wanli reign (1610-20). Both were Huizhou editions, produced by individual publishers whose sponsors employed the best illustrators and engravers of the period.

All four editions show Wénbó bowing before a seated Jing Ji \overline{a} ng (figures 1-4). They vary as to Wénbó's age and size, the location of the interview, and what she is doing. In the Wénxuǎnlóu and Sìbù cóngkān editions, the illustrations are clearly secondary to the content of the stories themselves. They are small (half the page or less) and follow the action of the story closely. They emphasize the text and the human actors over architectural detail and elaborate furnishings of the Huizhou

editions.

The Huizhou editions use elaborate one- or two-page illustrations. In the Huìtú Liènữ zhuàn, stories appear in a different order and with no conceptual structure whatever. In the Guī fan, the stories have been reclassified, both in chapter and within the chapters; here Jing Jiang is classified under the "All Virtues" subheading of "Wives."

All four editions show Wénbó in a subordinate role, but the Han-Song editions (Wénxuánlóu and Sibù cóngkān) reinforce Jing Jiāng's superiority, whereas the Ming Huizhou editions (Guī fan and Huìtú liènt zhuàn) minimize it. In the Han-Song editions, Wénbó is noticeably smaller than his mother; the Sibu congkan edition in fact transforms him into a child. The Guī fàn and Huìtú liènữ zhuàn lessen his subordination by showing him as adult, equal to his mother in size, and in elaborate dress.

IV. Conclusions

Warring States and Han texts portray Jing Jiang as a decisive and powerful woman who did not hesitate to intervene in either family matters or affairs of state, yet HE NEW

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Figure 1 The Wánxuánlóu edition



FIGURE 2 The Sìbù cóngkān edition

who was repeatedly praised by Confucius as "understanding the rites" in various contexts. Is this understanding a mode of knowledge equally available to—if not prevalent among—women and men, or does it have some special connotation when used of women? Let me argue in conclusion that, like wisdom, benevolence and the other virtues praised by Confucius are not gendered. The "rites" lence and the other virtues praised by Confucius are not gendered. The "rites" that Jing Jiang understands span much of the range of private and official ritual

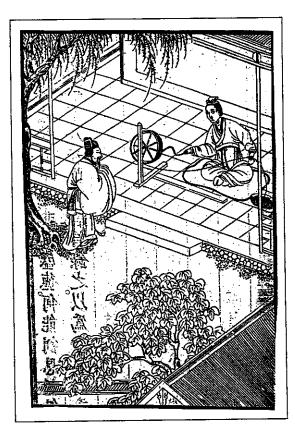
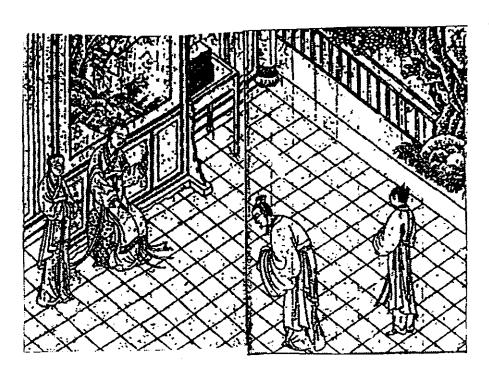


FIGURE 3
The Gūi sân edition

FIGURE 4
The Hùitú Liènữ zhuản edition



elders without violating proprieties, including skill at apt use of poetic quotation, as, for example, with her arrangement of Wénbó's marriage. She also had a keen sense of the spirit with which rites should be conducted in particular circumstances, as seen in her instructions to Wénbó's concubines. In addition, she had understanding of high state ritual, as shown in her account of the complementary activities of men and women in its preparation and performance. In short, there is nothing restricted, "feminine," or "gendered" about her degree or kind of understanding, nor does Confucius remark on her being a woman as in any way unusual or special.

Yet before using the case of Jing Jiang to argue for the moral or epistemological status of women in the earliest layers of "Confucian" thought, we would do well to reflect on the extent to which the recognition of her admittedly unusual abilities may have been a product of her circumstances. As the young widow of a high official, she was in an unusual (but not unique) position to take on the social roles of both father and mother. To this extent, she may have been able to achieve far more of the learning and status of a jūnzi 君子 than would normally have been permitted to, or recognized in, a woman. In this sense, her preeminence was far too particular to be indicative of early Confucian views of the status or potential of women. It does suggest a degree of flexibility (especially in the treatment of elite women) that was to be lost or de-emphasized in later Classical Confucian and Neo-Confucian views of women.

V. Appendix: Mubo, Dan Ji, and Wenbo in the Zuo zhuan

The Guó yǔ, Liènǔ zhuàn, Chūnqiū and Zuo zhuan all contain detailed references to a Mùbó of Lǔ who marries a woman named Dài Jǐ 戴己 of Jǔ 莒 and whose son Wénbó succeed Mùbó in office in Lǔ. The Guó yǔ and Liènǔ zhuàn accounts center on Jìng Jìāng and her instructions to Wénbó and Jì Kāngzǐ. The Zuo zhuan narratives center entirely on Mùbó. They are summarized in table 11.3.

Three significant inconsistencies make it clear that these narratives refer to different sets of individuals. In the first place, the name Mùbó of Lǔ occurs only in the Zuo zhuan; the Chūnqiū refers to him as Gōngsūn Ào 公孫敖, and once as Mèng Mùbó 孟穆伯. The latter name clearly identifies him as a member of the Meng lineage and rules out any possible relation to the Jì Kāngzǐ of the Guó yǔ and later narratives.

The second inconsistency concerns the life spans of Mùbó and Dài Jǐ. In the Guó yǔ and Liènữ zhuàn narratives, Mùbó dies young and Jìng Jiāng raises and instructs Wénbó alone. In the Chūnqiū and Zuǒ zhuàn, Dài Jǐ dies before Mùbó, Mùbó returns to Jǔ in search of another wife, flees Lǔ for Jǔ, and is succeeded in Lǔ by Wénbó. In each narrative, the early death of one spouse is a crucial element in the events that follow. In the Guó yǔ and Liènữ zhuàn, it is Mùbó's early death that forces Jìng Jiāng to take on the "paternal" role of instructing her son about

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Table 11.3 Gongsun Mubo in the Zuo zhuan

CHUNQIU	Zuo zhuan	NAME	YEAR	EVENT
	Xi 15.1	Mèng Mùbó		led a force in aid of Xu
Xi 15.3		Göngsün Ào	643	comes to the aid of Xu
AI 13.3	Wen 1.1	Göngsün Ào		receives prognostication that he would be fed by Wénbó and buried by Hui Shu, and that Wénb would bear progeny in Lǔ
Wen 1.9		Göngsün Ào	625	meets with Marquis of Jin
	Wen 1.6	Göngsün Ào		meets with Marquis of Jin
Wen 1.11		Göngsün Ào		enters Qi
	Wen 1.8	Mùbó		enters Qi
Wen 2.4		Göngsün Ào	624	meets with Duke of Song
	Wen 2.4	Mùbó		meets with princes
Wen 5.4		Göngsün Ào	621	enters Jin
Wen 7.10		Göngsün Ào	619	goes to Jǔ to superintend a covenant
	Wen 7.7	Mùbó	[c.640]	marries Dài Jì of Jǔ, who gives birth to Wénbó. Her younger sister Sheng Ji gives birth to Huì Shú 惠叔. After her death, returns to Jǔ and attempts to mar Lady Sì 巳
	Wen 7.7	Göngsün Ào		advised to send Lady Si back to Ji
Wen 8.6		Göngsün Ào	618	leaves for the capital, retraces his steps, and flees to Jǔ
	Wen 8.5			enters Zhou bearing mourning gifts, does not arrive there, flees to Jǔ to follow Lady Sì
Wen 14.8		Göngsün Ào	612	dies in Qi
YYCLL J.T.O	Wen 14.11	Mùbó		After Mùbó's flight, Wénbó established in office in Lú. Mùbó bears two sons in Jú and seeks Wénbó's help to return. He retur only to flee back to Jú. Wénbó fill, dies and is succeeded by Hui Shu. Mùbó asks Hui Shu's help t return Lú. He dies before he or return.
Wen 15.4	ŀ	Göngsün Ào	611	his coffin sent back to Luby peo of Qi
Wen 15.4		Mèng		coffin returned after earlier
		Göngsün Ào		objections by Duke and buried with honors by Hui Shu. [His mother] Sheng Ji does not atter Later, Mùbó's sons from Jǔ com to Lǔ and are received with affection by Wénbó's son Mèng Xiànzi 孟獻子

Notes: Dài jǐ and Shēng jǐ 學已 are posthumous titles. Wénbó's date of birth is estimated at twenty years before his assumption of office in Lǔ. Section numbering is taken from the Yang Bojun edition of the Zuo zhuan.

· 魔形物的 "我是我们的人,我们就是一个人,我们们的人,我们们的人,我们们的人,我们们的人,我们们的人,我们们们的人,我们们们们的人,我们们们们的人,我们们们的人, 1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,1995年,19

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ier buried . [His ot attend. Iň come government. In the Zuŏ zhuòn, it is the early death of Dai Ji that impels Mùbó to return to Jǔ and eventually flee Lǔ in pursuit of another wife.

Finally, in the Guó yǔ and Liènữ zhuàn narratives, Wénbó holds office in Lǔ many years after his father Mùbó's death. In the Zuŏ zhuàn, Wénbó attains office at the time of his father's flight to Ju, and dies before Mùbó, who intercedes first with him, and later with his half brother Hui Shu, in order to return to Lǔ from Ju.

The names Mùbó and Wénbó are generic enough that their recurrence is unremarkable; the duplication of a woman's name is more surprising. However, the name Dài Jĩ occurs only in the Liènữ zhuòn and there only once in the first lines of the life story. The Guó yũ, Hán Shì wàizhuòn, and Zhàngúo cè all call her "the mother of Gongfu Wenbo"; the Lǐ jì and Liènữ zhuòn call her Jìng Jiāng, and in remarks attributed to Confucius, she is always "the woman of the Ji." Nor does the Zuo zhuon narrative ascribe any particular virtues to Dài Jĩ. It seems most likely that, somehow, during the compilation of the Liènữ zhuòn the name Dài Jĩ was added to the otherwise consistent life story of Jìng Jiāng, the mother of Gōngfū Wénbó of Lǔ, the woman praised by Confucius.

NOTES

1. Lǔ and Jì are her husband's state and clan. Jìng Jiang can be construed either as an honorary title or as the woman's personal name and natal family name (xìng 姓). Either is consistent with the typology of women's names in Liu 1990.

2. The Liènii zhuàn is a compendium of 125 life stories of women from legendary times to the Han dynasty, mostly of consorts of rulers, but also of commoners. Many of the same narratives appear in other Warring States and Han texts. In the Liènii zhuàn the stories are narratives appear in other Warring States and Han texts. In the Liènii zhuàn the stories are narratives appear in other Warring States and Han texts. In the Liènii zhuàn the stories are narratives appear in other warring States and Han texts. In the Liènii zhuàn the stories are narratives appear in other states. It is conventionally attriarranged to exemplify the specific virtues that title its chapters. It is conventionally attriarranged to Liu Xiang and dated approximately 25 B.C.E. For discussion of several problems buted to Liu Xiang and dated approximately 25 B.C.E. For discussion of several problems that surround this dating and attribution see Raphals 1998, chap. 4. For translation see O'Hara 1971.

3. Each woman is praised for one virtue. The other chapters are (2) xián míng 賢明, sage intelligence, (3) rén zhì 仁智, benevolent wisdom, (4) zhēn shùn 貞順, purity and obedience, (5) jié yì 節義 chastity and righteousness, and (6) biàn tổng 辯通, skill in argument. Liènǔ zhuàn narratives within these chapters have a consistent structure. Each story has at least three components. The first is an introduction that consists of genealogical information, a brief statement of virtues or accomplishments, and/or a brief assessment of abilities or virtues. This introduction may be distinct from, or may blend into the second element: one or more life-story narratives that describe meritorious action(s). Each account ends with an assessment of the life-story example, prefaced by the phrase "the lord says" (jūnzǐ yuē 君子曰) and/or one or more apt quotations from the Shi jīng. The third is a eulogy or yuē 君子曰) and/or one or more apt quotations from the Shi jīng. The third is a eulogy or song 頌, which summarizes her virtuous deeds and lists her virtues. It may recapitulate the contents of the introductory summary. Most Liènǔ zhuàn life stories have only one narrative element. Four stories are longer, with two to five narrative elements; of these, the story of Jīng Jīāng is the longest. It consists of five elements, several of which are of considerable length. The other long Liènǔ zhuàn narratives are: Ding Jīang of Wei (LNZ 1.7, four elength. The other long Liènǔ zhuàn narratives are: Ding Jīang of Wei (LNZ 1.7, four elength.)

4. For zhèng see Bielenstein 1980:38-39. Titles are taken from Bielenstein (1980) and Hucker (1985).

5. This section refers to a pattern or painted design, copied onto the cloth. According to the Works of Nature and Man or Tiāngōng kāiwù 天工開物, a seventeenth-century work on technology: "The mental calculations (xīn jì 心計) of the artisan who makes the figure design are of the greatest ingenuity (jīng qiǎo 精巧). An artist first paints the design and color onto a paper. The artisan follows the painted design (hua) in silk and translates it into a pattern, which is hung in the figure tower" (huà lóu 花樓, TGKW 64, trans. Zen, Sun, and Sun 1966:56).

6. I am indebted to John Major for this interpretation of hua and wì (物), which improves the coherence of the analogy. According to the commentary for this passage, the "marking" (wì 物) was one thông 章 of ink. The reference is to an inked string used for measurement. The "weeds" (wú 蕪) refer to the "wild" silk that comes from wild silk-worms whose silk cannot be reeled, but only cut. The compound "weeds and tendons" (wu yu mo) refers to the kinds of fibers from which all clothing is made. According to the Tiāngōng kāiwù, the fibers from which all clothing is made come equally from plant and animal sources: "Therefore Nature has provided the materials (wù 物) for clothing. Of these the vegetable ones are cotton [hemp] (xǐ 枲), hemp (má 廣), meng hemp (máng 蓝), and creeper hemp (gé 葛); those derived from birds, animals, and insects are furs, woolens, silk (sī 絲), and spun silk (mián 編). All the clothing materials [in the world] are about equally divided between vegetable and animal origins" (TGKW 45, trans. Zen, Sun, and Sun 1966:35).

7. This title may refer to the guan nei hou or Marquis of Guan Nei, the nineteenth of twenty (second highest) titles of nobility awarded to exceptionally meritorious individuals. See Hucker 1985:286, 421.

8. The commentary indicates that the jūn refers to the teeth of the comb. According to Sun Yutang, the term jūn 均 in the Liènǚ zhuòn is equivalent to "reed" (gou 笈) in the Tiangong kaiwu (Sun 1963:152). Similarly, the Tiangong kaiwu states that the reed comb regulates the breadth and density of the cloth (TGKW 62). The reed consists of eight hundred teeth for gauge and twelve hundred for damask or pongee. Each tooth has a hole or eyelet that holds four unsized threads (or four sized threads combined into two warp yarns), the comb of a draw loom regulates the breadth and density of the cloth. See Zen, Sun, and Sun 1966:53.

9. Liang Duan's commentary adds that the warp beam is shing 勝, victorious, and that being able to unfold (stretch) without limit is an example of the virtue (dùo dé 道德) of the sun gong. For description of the drawloom see Sun 1963:155, TGKW 63-64, (trans. Zen, Sun, and Sun 1966:55).

10. LJ 12, 27:8a, trans. Legge 1:454.

11. LNZ 1:8b, quoting Zhanhan (Mao 264).

12. GY 5.13 (Lu 2) pp. 205-9, JY 9:41:13a-14a.

13. For Meng Mu's admonition, see LNZ 1.11, HSWZ 9.1 and 9.17, and Mengzi 1A12.

14. LNZ 1:8b. Nángōng Jìngshú 南宫敬叔 and Lù Dǔfù 露堵父 both held the office of daifu in Lǔ. Nángōng Jìngshú was the son of Mèng Xīzǐ 孟僖子. Jìng Jiāng quotes the words of Jì Dàozǐ 季倬子, her father-in-law.

15. GY 5.11 (Lu 2), pp. 202-3.

16. LJ 32, 54:15a-b, trans. Legge 2:341.

17. GY 5.15 (Lu 2), p. 210. Shī Hài 師亥 was a music master from Lǔ.

18. For discussion of analogies between the behavior of Liènu zhuùn wives and ministers see Gipoulon (1997) and chapter 1 of Raphals (1998).

19. See Thatcher (1991) and Holmgren (1991).

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20. LJ 12, 28:20a. For a different translation see Legge 1:478.

21. 姆教婉娩聽從 LJ 12, 28:21a-b (Legge 1:479).

- 22. For women's ability to manage their own homes after the death of their husbands see Thatcher (1991) and Raphals (1998), chap. 9.
 - 23. LNZ 1:9a, JY 10:44:8b-9a.
- 24. 公父氏之婦智也夫 GY 5.16 (Lu 2) p. 211. The note to this passage reiterates that her understanding is 丈夫之智 (p. 212 n. 8).
 - 25. LJ 3, 9:24b-25a. For a different translations see Legge 1:176.
 - 26. LJ 3, 9:25b. For another translation see Legge 1:176.
 - 27. LNZ, GY 5.17 (Lu 2), p. 212.
 - 28. HSWZ 1.19, pp. 6b-7a, trans. modified from Hightower 26.
 - 29. ZGC 20 (Zhao 3) pp. 692-99, trans. Crump 338.
 - 30. ZGC 20 (Zhao 3) pp. 692-99, trans. Crump 339.
 - 31. LNZ 6:5b.
- 32. I owe this formulation of "superior/inferior" as "benfactor/beneficiary" to Henry Rosemont.
 - 33. Kǒng cóngzǐ 孔叢子, trans. Hightower 14 n. 16.
 - 34. For the dating of these texts see Loewe 1993.
- 35. I draw upon the standard accounts of the life of Confucius by D. C. Lau, James Legge, and SJ 47. For more recent, and more controversial, accounts see Jensen (1997) and Brooks and Brooks (1998).
- 36. An account of a disagreement between Confucius and Ji Kangzi (possibly Ji Huanzi) appears in the Han Shi waizhuan (HSWZ 3.22), Shuo yuan (SY 7:3b-4a) and Kongzi jiøyu (KZJY 1:5b-6a) All three texts name Ji Kāngzĭ as Confucius's antagonist, but the event seems to have occurred during the ministry of Ji Huanzi.
 - 37. Andlects, Lau trans., 115-16.
- 38. This genealogy is based on Zuo zhuan references to Ji Wenzi (Wen 6 to Xiang 5), Ji Wuzi (Xiang 6 to Zhao 7.7), Ji Daozi (Zhao 12.8), Ji Pingzi (Zhao 9.5 to Ding 5.4), Ji Huanzi (Ding 5 to Ai 3), and Ji Kangzi (Ai 7 to 27).
 - 39. LNZ 1:6b. For kinship terminology, see Feng 1967.
 - 40. For example, LNZ 1:8b and, GY Lu 5.10 (p. 202 n. 1) and 5.14 (p. 210 n. 4).
- 42. LNZ 1:9a. The passage corresponds identically to the Gúo yǔ story "Gongfu Wenbo's Mother Discourses on the Inner and Outer Court" (GY 5.12 [Lu 2] pp. 203-4).
- 43. This passage corresponds to the Guo yu story "Gongfu Wenbo's Mother on the Separation of Men and Women in the Rites" (GY 5.14 [Lu 2] p. 209). Another Gúo yǔ story "Gongfu Wenbo's Mother replies to Jì Kāngzi," which does not occur in the Liènu zhuòn, describes another admonition to Jì Kāngzǐ. When he asks whether Gōngfū Wénbó ever speaks of him, Jing Jiang responds that, according to her mother-in-law, a gentleman who can be humble may enjoy long posterity (GY 5.10 [Lu 2] p. 202).
- 44. Jiang Yuan divined and personally performed a sacrifice in an attempt to avoid her strange pregnancy (LNZ 1.2); the mother-teacher of Lu returned to her parents' home to oversee the ancestral sacrifices (LNZ 1.12); and the filial widow of Liang offered sacrifices for her mother-in-law (LNZ 4.15).
- 45. For example, Meng Mu (LNZ 1.11), the widow of Duke Bai of Chu (LNZ 4.11), Tao Ying of Lu (LNZ 4.13), and the filial widow of Chen (LNZ 4.15). Xuwu of Qi and the women in her association also engaged in weaving and spinning outside the home (LNZ 6.14). Women who engaged in sericulture included the wife of Qiu Huzi of Lu (LNZ

- (LNZ 1.1), Jiang Yuan (LNZ 1.2), and the wives of Lao Lai (LNZ 2.14) and Yue Ling (LNZ 2.15); the wife of Jieyu of Chu went to market (LNZ 2.13), the wife of the bowmaker of Jin instructed Duke Ping in archery (LNZ 6.3), the washerwoman at Agu discoursed with Confucius and his disciple (LNZ 6.6), and the daughter of the ferry officer of Zhao took her father's place as ferryman (LNZ 6.7).
- 47. For example, Ding Jiang of Wei successfully averted an invasion by Jin (LNZ 1.7). Duke Wen of Jin regained his throne through the efforts of his wife (LNZ 2.3). Zhongzi, the wife of Duke Ling of Qi, remonstrated unsuccessfully with her husband regarding the succession (Zuo, Xiang 19, trans. Legge 483, and LNZ 3.8). Guan Zhong of Qi consulted his concubine on affairs of state (LNZ 6.1); his patron Duke Huan of Qi discussed military campaigns with his wife (LNZ 2.2), as did King Wu of Chu with his (LNZ 3.2). Wives (and sisters) advised their husbands (or brothers) on accepting office (LNZ 2.13, 2.14, 2.15, and 3.12); the woman from Qi Shi in Lu was intensely aware of the political situation of her state (LNZ 3.13). Huai Ying of Yu of Jin resolved a conflict between duty to her state and to her husband (LNZ 5.3). The daughter of Ji Zhong resolved a conflict of loyalty to her father and to her husband. On the advice of her mother, she warned her father, who killed her husband. (The Earl of Zheng, who had plotted to use her husband to kill her father, responded that her husband deserved to die because he took counsel with his wife [Zuo, Huan 15, trans. Legge 64].)
- 48. Zhū Xī, Xiǎoxué jíjiě 5:118 and 2:35 as cited in Ebrey 1993:24. For discussion of the class basis of constructions of virtue in upper-class Song families, see Ebrey 1993:23–25.
 - 49. Zhū Xī, Zhūzi yǔleì 7:127 as cited in Ebrey 1993:124.
 - 50. XX 2:66.
- 51. The Nèi ée 內則 or "Domestic Regulations" chapter of the Lǐ jì (LJ 11), gives detailed rules for the management of families, including rules that specify and limit contact between the sexes.
- 52. XX 2:61 and 5:44 (monogamy); 2:64 (seclusion); and 6:14, 27, and 30 (filiality to mothers-in-law).
 - 53. XX 4:1-2 and 4:28.
- 54. XX 5:45. Zhū Xī quotes the Yan Family Instructions to this effect. In his critique of the inadequacies of Ban Zhao's Nū jie, Zhu Xi suggested eight chapter headings of his own, which emphasize familial roles over intellectual and moral judgment: propriety, subordination, filiality, harmony, diligence, frugality, generosity, and learning. See Chan 1989:542 and 546 n. 37.
 - 55. Birge 1989:340-41.
 - 56. Wu 1989.
 - 57. See Raphals 1998, chap. 5 and 10, for further discussion of these differences.
 - 58. Carlitz 1991:122.
- 59. See WXL 1.9, SBCK 1.9, HTLNZ 2.6 (p. 168), all cited by book and story number, and GF 3.1.2 (cited by book, section, and story number). For discussion of these see Carlitz 1991:134–35.
- 60. The Wénxuánlóu edition of 1881 was based on the Southern Song Jian'an Yu family edition, the oldest known edition of the Liènữ zhuản. The Sibù cóngkữn edition was based on the Ming Changsha Yeshiguan edition of a Song original.
- 61. By contrast, consider Xunzi's view of the relative capabilities of fathers and mothers: "A father can beget them [children] but cannot suckle them; a mother can feed [suckle] them but cannot instruct or correct them. A junzi not only can feed them [his people], but can instruct and correct them as well" (X 75/19/110). Almost all references to the term "mother" in the Xúnzi are within the compound "fathers and mothers." For further discussion see Raphals 1998, chap. 1.

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