Sample CEI Paragraph

Creon does not demonstrate respect towards women. For example, when Ismene questions whether or not Creon would kill his own son's fiance, he responds, "there are other fields just as fertile" (Sophocles 585). Here, Creon compares Antigone to a field in which men are to plant their seed. By comparing a woman to a field, he is not only objectifying her but also implying that her only value is in her ability to produce children. He even suggests that Haemon will find an "other field," which suggests that he views women as easily replaceable.

Additionally, when Haemon confronts his father, Creon suggests, "we must not yield to women. It would be better, if it had to be, to fall at a man's hands and not to be called worse than a woman" (Sophocles 689-92). In this argument, Creon shares that he would prefer to be defeated by a man than a woman. Creon's ego is so large that anyone who goes against him is a direct threat to his power and his masculinity. Further, he immediately disregards any woman's opinion as insignificant as he suggests that men should not "yield" or consider her advice. By directly stating his prejudice against women, Creon positions himself not only as a close-minded ruler but also as a sexist.