

VIKINGS CAN BE WOMEN TOO!



BY SOFIA HOYOS

A VIKING TOWN
IN SWEDEN,
2019



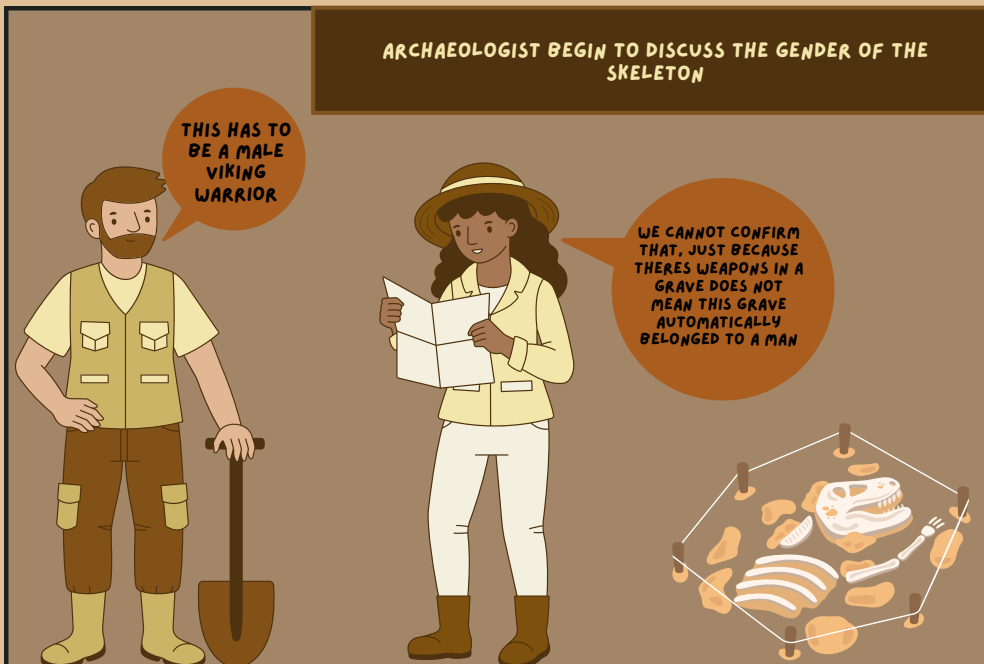
A VIKING GRAVE IS
FOUND WITH
WEAPONS AND
STRATEGY GAMES



ARCHAEOLOGIST BEGIN TO DISCUSS THE GENDER OF THE
SKELETON

THIS HAS TO
BE A MALE
VIKING
WARRIOR

WE CANNOT CONFIRM
THAT, JUST BECAUSE
THERES WEAPONS IN A
GRAVE DOES NOT
MEAN THIS GRAVE
AUTOMATICALLY
BELONGED TO A MAN



ARCHAEOLOGIST BEGAN TO STUDY THE BONES
OF THE GRAVE. THE SHAPE OF THE BONES
AND TEETH SHOWED THAT IT WAS A FEMALE.



HOW ARE YOU GOING TO ARGUE WITH THE BONE STUDY THAT THIS VIKING IS A WOMAN?

BUT, THERE WERE, SWORDS, AXES, SPEARS, ARROWS, KNIVES AND GAMING PIECES FOUND IN THE GRAVE. SO THIS PERSON WAS A FIGHTER MEANING THEY WERE A MAN

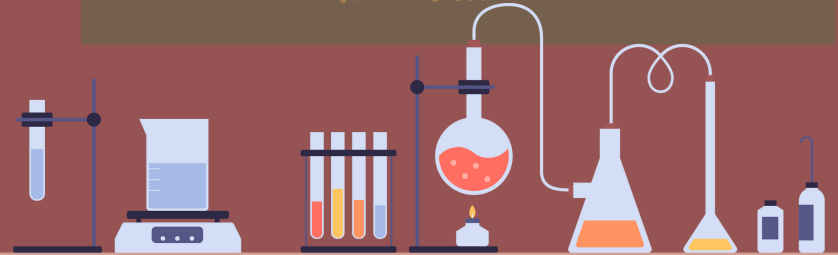
THIS SPARKED DEBATES BECAUSE PEOPLE WERE STUNNED AT THE IDEA OF A FEMALE WARRIOR



SCIENTIST TOOK THESE BONES TO THE LAB TO FINALLY CONFIRM THE SEX OF THE VIKING WARRIOR

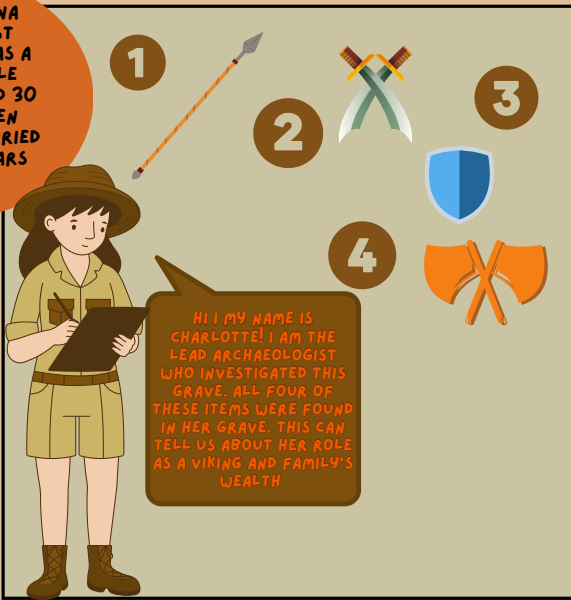


AS SCIENTIST LOOKED AT THE BONES THEY FOUND 2 TYPES OF DNA LABELLED AS X & Y, WHICH ARE FOUND IN ONLY FEMALES AND NOT MALES.





SO FROM MY DNA ARCHAEOLOGIST COULD TELL I WAS A SWEDISH FEMALE WARRIOR AROUND 30 YEARS OLD. EVEN THOUGH I WAS BURIED A THOUSAND YEARS AGO



HI I MY NAME IS CHARLOTTE! I AM THE LEAD ARCHAEOLOGIST WHO INVESTIGATED THIS GRAVE. ALL FOUR OF THESE ITEMS WERE FOUND IN HER GRAVE. THIS CAN TELL US ABOUT HER ROLE AS A VIKING AND FAMILY'S WEALTH



ADDING ON TO CHARLOTTE, THIS ALSO MEANS THAT WE CANNOT ASSUME THAT THOUSANDS OF YEAR AGO PEOPLE HAD THE SAME IDEA OF GENDER AND SEX AS WE DO! GENDER ROLES CAN HAVE ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES. AS ARCHAEOLOGIST IF WE HOLD BIASES THIS CAN RUIN ALL OUR HARD WORK.

WE HAVE TO CONSIDER THE DIFFERENT GENDER ROLES IN VIKING CULTURE. INSTEAD OF ASSUMING A GENDER BINARY.



WE SHALL GO TO THE NORTH END AND TAKE COVER IN THE NIGHT, THEN ATTACK!

WHY AM I HERE? UGH

WE FIGHT! THIS IS HOW WE WIN!

WOHOHO



FEMALE VIKINGS ARE RECENTLY SEEN ON TV! HISTORY CHANNEL HAS A SERIES CONTAINING FEMALE FIGHTERS BECAUSE THEY ARE FOUND IN IN SCANDINAVIAN LORE AND POETRY



SO AS WE DO OUR JOB WE CANNOT INFLUENCE OUR MODERN DAY STEREOTYPES ON FINDINGS FROM ANCIENT TIMES!

THESE BONES COULD BELONG TO A MALE, FEMALE, OR INTERSEX INDIVIDUAL

THE END

Charlotte Hedenstierna-Jonson, Anna Kjellström, Torun Zachrisson, Maja Krzewińska, Veronica Sobrado, Neil Price, Torsten Günther, Mattias Jakobsson, Anders Götherström, Jan Storå. "A female Viking warrior confirmed by genomics." *American journal of biological anthropology* vol. 164 issue 4 (December 2017): 853-860.

Morgan, Thaddeus. "DNA Suggests Viking Women Were Powerful Warriors." History Channel. Last Modified March 5, 2019. <https://www.history.com/news/dna-proves-viking-women-were-powerful-warriors>.