Medea of the Norms

Even though Euripides portrays Medea to be a pitiful and emotional wreck showing characteristics of a feminist, the Medea at the beginning, stands in stark disparity compared to her in the end. Euripides Medea is really a misogynist play. From being a caring emotional woman who had devoted everything to the man she thought she loved and had loved her back, to a woman of destruction and death in a matter of days, heartbroken and untrusted by that same man. Transformed from a loving wife, to a demon. (incomplete sentence)

Medea was an obedient wife, emotionally distressed because she was rejected by her husband, Jason, after everything she had done for him in Jason and the Golden fleece. Medea was, in simple terms, tossed away for someone who was better than her like she was an old newspaper and trash. She was traded for someone with wealth and someone with a name that could provide Jason with royalty and the same wealth to provide for his own line of succession. There is a section in the play, lines 231254, the passage states that women are objects and subjects to please and to not be bothersome to their husbands. Women did not get the right to choose their husbands, they normally never did; they were stuck with the ones they were
matched up with chosen by their fathers, and to endure their righteous roles of being a good wife and mother to their husband. If not, the husband would simply go find pleasures elsewhere, sometimes with other women and make the wives completely miserable.

Euripides portrays a woman who so completely undermines the power and authority of the feminist social norms and overcomes the male bonds. The murder of Medea’s children is the single most monstrous act in the play, even going as far as being in both versions of the tragedy. Here Euripides attempts to show in a caring twisted way, the unfortunate situation Medea was placed in “spare the children. Leave them alone, poor thing” (Euripides, 1081). As part of Medea’s revenge against Jason, Euripides created Medea to choose to kill her children. The mind of a woman has the ability to do such a hurtful act and endure it.

From a pitied woman, to a woman who was capable of destroying her own family out of anger for her abandonment showing complete anguish. Euripides Medea is a misogynist play. the plight of women, reinforced by the masculine control of the social norms back then.