spinster

['spins|tə,-{'spins}tris] n

- 1. 1) старая дева
- 2) юр. незамужняя женщина, девица
- 2. пряха, прядильщица

spinster

spin ster [spinster spinsters] BrE ['spinstə(r)] NAmE ['spinstər] noun (old-fashioned, often disapproving)

a woman who is not married, especially an older woman who is not likely to marry

• The sisters were to remain spinsters for the rest of their lives. This word should not now be used to mean simply a woman who is not married.

compare [†]bachelor

Derived Word [†]spinsterhood

Word Origin:

late Middle English (in the sense 'woman who spins'): from the verb **†spin** + **†-ster**; in early use the term was added to names of women to denote their occupation. The current sense dates from the early 18th cent.

spinster

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

Freakuency Pack

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

spin ster /'spinstə \$ -ər/ BrE AmE noun [countable] old-fashioned

[Date: 1600-1700; Origin: spinster 'woman who spins' (14-20 centuries), from spin] an unmarried woman, usually one who is no longer young and seems unlikely to marry ⇒ bachelor

THESAURUS

someone who is not married

bachelor a man who has neverbeen married: He's a confirmed bachelor (=a man who has decided he will never marry).

• **spinster** *old-fashioned* a woman who has neverbeen married and is no longer young: The house was owned by an elderly spinster.

spinster

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