



THE WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT

Curriculum for grades 4 - 12

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**Prepared by the League of Women Voters
of the Greater Dayton Area**

117 S. Main St., Suite 17; Dayton, OH 45402-2015

Current Address: Talbott Tower, Suite 1208

131 N. Ludlow St.

Dayton, OH 45402-1703

Phone: 937-228-4041

FAX: 937-228-4104

Email: lwvgda@att.net

URL: <http://www.lwvdayton.org>

WOMEN WINNING THE VOTE - A Means To Achieve Equal Rights

(Curriculum prepared by The League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area)

The year 1995 marks the 75th anniversary of women having the right to vote. After 72 years of struggle, the Nineteenth Amendment was passed in 1920.

This study material and suggestions for teaching grades 4 through 12 are prepared for the purpose of making these children and teens aware of the woman's suffrage movement and its importance in the history of our country. It can be adapted for various age groups and used as a short or long term project.

There are five sections:

- I - Background and Beginning of Movement,
- II - After the Civil War,
- III - Activists,
- IV - Opposition - Anti-Suffragists,
- V - Victory - The Nineteenth Amendment.

THE NINETEENTH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

*The right of citizens of the United States to vote
shall not be denied or abridged
by the United States
or by any State on account of sex.*

*Congress shall have power to enforce this article
by appropriate legislation.*

*Neither the United
nor any state has the right
to keep a citizen from voting
because she is a woman.*

*Congress has the power to make laws
that will make this amendment effective.*

Introduction: (from the National Women's History Project)

The idea of equal rights for women is not a new one. The feminist movement of the 1970s and '80s is actually a re-emergence of a massive social reform movement, begun in 1848, at the Seneca Falls Women's Rights Convention. The women's rights movement eventually focused its efforts on winning the right to vote, a campaign that reached a successful conclusion with the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920.

The call for more legal rights and social freedoms for women grew out of the abolitionist movement prior to the Civil War. Women abolitionists found that their work on behalf of freeing the slaves was hampered by the lack of women's own freedom. For many years, the two causes were closely linked.

In 1869, two national organizations were formed to work toward the goal of expanded legal rights for women. Eventually, the leaders of the movement became convinced that winning the vote was of primary importance, and that became their focus.

In every state, thousands of women joined suffrage organizations. Public lectures, newspapers, parades, billboards, silent vigils, and every other imaginable tactic were employed by the various suffrage organizations to get their message across to the public. During the 72 years of the campaign, hundreds of individual referenda and petition campaigns were undertaken to get woman's suffrage passed in various states. Annual pilgrimages were made by hundreds of women to lobby Congress for passage of a constitutional amendment, campaigns were mounted to unseat legislators unsympathetic to the cause, and millions of dollars were raised to support these efforts.

The Nineteenth Amendment was finally passed in 1920.

I. Background and Beginning of Movement

What was life like for women in the 1800s?

When Lucy Stone, founder of the American Woman Suffrage Association, was born in 1818, her mother is quoted as saying, "Oh dear! I am sorry it is a girl. A woman's life is so hard!" Her mother, as a farmer's wife, baked and cooked over a wood stove for her family and the hired hands, washed, scrubbed, drew water from an outside well and heated it on the stove, canned, churned, made cheese and soap, plucked chickens, dipped candles, wove and dyed cloth, made the clothes, milked the cows, and cared for her children. Lucy became a teacher when she was 16, earning her board and one dollar a week. It took her nine years to save the \$75 needed to enter Oberlin College in Ohio, the only college in the country that offered a degree for females.

Poor women working in the cotton and woolen mills in 1846, worked 12 to 16 hours daily. Many lived six to a room and two to a bed in company boarding houses and were paid \$2 a week.

Women were not permitted to give evidence in court, nor, did they have the right to speak in public before an audience.

When a woman married, her husband legally owned all she had (including her earnings, her clothes and jewelry, and her children). If he died, she was entitled to only a third of her husband's estate.

"Out of indignation at the condition of women, the suffrage movement was born. For 70 years it played a leading part in a great struggle to raise womankind to an equality with men." (Women's Rights by Olivia Coolidge.)

Beginning of the Movement for Women's Rights

Public Speaking

Women began to speak out against slavery in the 1830's. Sarah and Angelina Grimke were sisters who were active in the abolitionist movement. They opened the way for women to speak publicly as they traveled around addressing public meetings about the evils of slavery. They became Quakers and worked with Lucretia Mott, a minister in the Quaker Church.

Petitions

During a petition campaign against slavery, southern congressmen tried to forbid the presentation of petitions coming from anti-slavery societies (some of them from female anti-slavery societies). Abigail Adams' son, John Quincy Adams (who was a former president of the United States) spoke for the right of women to sign petitions and collect signatures.

Seneca Falls Convention

Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton organized a Women's Rights Convention to be held at Seneca Falls, NY in 1848. A Declaration of Sentiments, modeled after the Declaration of Independence, was adopted, along with a set of resolutions calling for women's educational opportunity, equality under the law, and the right to vote. This was a declaration of woman's independence proclaiming that "all men and women are created equal." These women realized that if they had the right to vote they could change laws and customs. Of the 300 people who attended this convention, only one woman, Charlotte Woodward, lived to cast a vote in 1920. There were critics of this convention, as we see from a quote from a New York newspaper: "This bolt is the most shocking and unnatural incident ever recorded in the history of humanity. It will...prove a monstrous injury to all mankind."

Other conventions

Many conventions concerning women's rights were held throughout the country until the beginning of the Civil War. Because of the concern over the evils of slavery, this early movement for women's rights was closely allied with abolitionist concerns, and some conventions dealt with both issues.

One thousand people from 11 states attended the 1850 National Woman's Rights Convention, which was supported by liberal men and women. One newspaper denounced this convention as "a motley gathering of fanatical mongrels, or old grannies, male and female, of fugitive slaves and fugitive lunatics."

II. After the Civil War

Amendments

Widespread agitation for woman suffrage began immediately after the Civil War. After slavery was abolished by passage of the **13th Amendment**, Susan B. Anthony organized the American Equal Rights Association with the goal of attaining civil rights for all women and for black men.

The **14th Amendment** in 1868 established citizenship for all those born in the U. S., but the language included the word “male” in defining citizen. Many hoped that “citizen” would be interpreted to give women the right to vote, but the wording implied that women could be denied the right to vote.

Black men were assured the right to vote in the **15th Amendment**, but all women were still excluded.

Organizations for Women’s Rights

Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton organized the **National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA)** in 1869, with the goal of adding an amendment to the Constitution, which would give all women the right to vote. They were also concerned about other rights for women.

The **American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA)**, organized by Lucy Stone and Henry Blackwell, was also formed in 1869. This group worked on separate referenda campaigns in each state to get the right to vote and did not get involved with other women’s issues.

After 30 years, these two organizations merged to become the **National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA)** with Elizabeth Cady Stanton as president and woman’s suffrage as the main focus. For the next 22 years, this organization worked on the passage of a constitutional amendment and state campaigns for advocating the right to vote for women.

Action in Western States

In 1867, Kansas put a woman suffrage amendment proposal on the ballot. This is the first time the question went to a direct vote; it lost.

In 1869, the Wyoming Territory enacted the first woman suffrage legislation, and in 1890, it was the first state with woman suffrage that was admitted into the Union.

A Look at the Growth of the Woman Suffrage Movement

In the 17 years since Elizabeth Stanton’s Seneca Falls meeting (1848-1865), women had conducted:

- ❖ 56 referenda campaigns
- ❖ 480 campaigns to get state legislatures to submit suffrage amendments to voters
- ❖ 47 campaigns to get state constitutional conventions to write woman suffrage into state constitutions
- ❖ 277 campaigns to induce state party conventions to include woman suffrage into state constitutions
- ❖ 270 conventions to do the same
- ❖ Campaigns in 19 successive Congresses

III. Activists

The Founders:

- ◆ Susan B. Anthony
- ◆ Lucretia Mott
- ◆ Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- ◆ Lucy Stone
- ◆ Victoria Woodhull

Some of the Men

Behind the Women:

- ◆ Henry Blackwell,
husband of Lucy Stone
- ◆ George Catt
- ◆ Frederick Douglass
- ◆ William Lloyd Garrison
- ◆ James Mott

Women Who Carried On:

- ◆ Harriet Stanton Blatch
- ◆ Carrie Chapman Catt
- ◆ Alice Paul
- ◆ Anna Howard Shaw

(More information about these people on pages 7, 8 and 9)

Organizations

The **American Equal Rights Association** formed in 1866 and, under the leadership of Susan B. Anthony, worked for civil rights for black men and all women. **The National Woman Suffrage Association** held conventions every year, introducing the woman suffrage amendment in every session of Congress from 1868 to 1890. The **American Woman Suffrage Association** worked tirelessly on passage of a constitutional amendment and state campaigns.

Activities

- conventions and campaigns
- lobbying
- letterwriting
- picketing
- petitioning: examples: In 1866, petitions with 10,000 names were sent to Congress; in 1894, petitions with 600,000 signatures were sent to the New York State Constitutional Convention.
- published material: examples: “*The Woman’s Journal*” by Lucy Stone and Henry Blackwell; “*The Revolution*” by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.
- rallies
- parades: examples: 1910, first woman suffrage parade; 1912, 20,000 marched in a New York parade; 1913, 5,000 marched in Washington D.C. in Woodrow Wilson’s inaugural parade; 1913, 10,000 marched in New York
- attempts to vote: In 1868, in New Jersey, 172 women cast ballots in the presidential election; their votes were not counted. In 1872, Susan B. Anthony and 15 others tried to vote. She was arrested and fined.

Influence from Great Britain

Harriet Stanton Blatch, daughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Alice Paul and Lucy Burns had visited Great Britain and seen suffragists there working toward woman suffrage in more militant ways than those in the U.S. Bringing back those ideas in 1910, they introduced outdoor rallies and parades. Lucy Burns and Alice Paul had been put in jail in England. Returning to this country with more aggressive plans, they formed a separate organization, the **Congressional Union**, which then formed the **National Woman’s Party**. **NAWSA** did not approve of Alice Paul’s militant tactics.



Women Who Worked for Woman Suffrage and Equal Rights

- ❖ **Jane Addams** : 1860-1935, social reformer, author, peace and suffrage leader; NAWSA first vice president, 1911-1914.
- ❖ **Susan Brownell Anthony** : 1820-1906, Quaker, teacher, temperance and abolition organizer, outstanding women's rights leader, took suffrage petitions door-to-door, published *The Revolution*, lectured, was active in state campaigns, spoke cross country for 30 years, became internationally respected symbol of woman's movement.
- ❖ **Alva Erskine Smith Vanderbilt Belmont**: 1853-1933, multimillionaire, philanthropist, socially prominent New York suffrage speaker and organizer.
- ❖ **Alice Stone Blackwell**: 1857-1950, daughter of Lucy Stone and Henry Blackwell, suffrage writer and journalist, helped merge the two suffrage groups.
- ❖ **Harriot Stanton Blatch**: 1818-1894, daughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, militant leader, fiery speaker, lobbyist, recruited working women to suffrage, organized first large suffrage parades.
- ❖ **Amelia Bloomer** 1818-1894, edited a woman rights paper, dress reform pioneer lecturer. She wore a mode of dress designed with a shorter skirt and a pair of loose Turkish trousers gathered around the ankle. She also advertised this outfit in her magazine, *The Lily*. It became known as the Bloomer Costume.
- ❖ **Lucy Burns** : 1879-1966, organizer in England, militant suffrage organizer, lobbyist, speaker, editor, hunger striker.
- ❖ **Carrie Lane Chapman Catt**: 1859-1947, field organizer with Susan B. Anthony, reorganized NAWSA to be more political, fundraiser, administrator, opposed militants, founded League of Women Voters.
- ❖ **Anna Elizabeth Dickinson**: 1842-1932, Quaker, lecturer, championed Black rights and emancipation of women.
- ❖ **Abigail Scott Duniway**: 1834-1915, published a weekly newspaper dedicated to the cause of woman's rights, Oregon's first woman voter.
- ❖ **Angelina Emily Grimke**: 1805-1879, woman's rights pioneer, joined Quakers, led anti-slavery meetings.
- ❖ **Sarah Moore Grimke**: 1792-1873, lecturer, writer, outspoken advocate of abolition, early champion of women's rights, defender of women's right to speak when it was challenged.
- ❖ **Julia Ward Howe** : 1819-1910, author of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," founder and leader of AWSA, editor of *The Woman's Journal*, lecturer.
- ❖ **Esther Morris**: 1814-1902, moved to Wyoming 1969, encouraged new territory's leaders to pass woman suffrage and property rights legislation, elected first female Justice of the Peace.
- ❖ **Lucretia Coffin Mott**: 1793-1880, Quaker minister, leading women's rights pioneer, called first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, NY 1848, president of American Equal Rights Assoc. 1866.
- ❖ **Maud Wood Park**: 1871-1955, organizer, civic leader, speaker, lobbyist for 19th Amendment.
- ❖ **Alice Stokes Paul**: 1885-1977, Quaker, chief strategist for the militant suffrage wing, founder of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage and the National Woman's Party, author of the Equal Rights Amendment, international organizer.
- ❖ **Jeannette Pickering Rankin**: 1880-1973, suffrage organizer, elected first U.S. Congresswoman 1917, ran for Senate.
- ❖ **Anna Howard Shaw**: 1847-1919, from England to America 1851, first ordained Methodist woman minister 1880, Boston U. medical school 1886, outstanding suffrage orator for 30 years, close associate of Susan B. Anthony, NAWSA president - 1904-1915.

- ❖ **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** 1815-1902, brilliant woman's rights leader, abolitionist, issued call to first women's rights convention, wrote "Declaration of Sentiments" declaring that "men and women are created equal," proposed that women should vote, political partner for 50 years with Susan B. Anthony, popular speaker, forceful writer, drafted resolutions, wrote speeches, ran for Congress 1866, edited *The Revolution*, president of NWSA for 21 years, agitated for constitutional amendment from 1878 onward.
- ❖ **Lucy Stone**: 1818-1893, spoke for abolition and women's rights, organized own lectures, married Henry Blackwell and became known for keeping own name to protest restrictive marriage laws, converted Susan B. Anthony and Julia Ward Howe to suffrage, refused to pay taxes to protest lack of representation, pressed for both black and woman suffrage, edited *The Woman's Journal* with husband, dying words to daughter were "Make the world better."
- ❖ **Sojourner Truth**: 1797-1883, born a slave, preached against prostitution 1830, encouraged brotherly love, spoke at women's rights meetings in 1850s.
- ❖ **Victoria Clafin Woodhull**: 1838-1927, declared herself candidate for President of the U.S. 1870; first woman to address Congressional committee urging woman suffrage in 1871; petitioned the judiciary committee of the House of Representatives, claiming that the amendments to secure the Negro vote had confirmed it to women also.

The Men Behind the Women

- **Henry Blackwell**: a constant agitator for women's rights, helped publish *The Woman's Journal* with his wife Lucy Stone and daughter Alice Stone Blackwell.
- **George Catt**: an engineer whose support and understanding of his wife Carrie Chapman Catt freed her to devote her time to leading the national suffrage drive.
- **John Dewey**: educator
- **Max Eastman**: editor
- **David Starr Jordan**, Stanford University president

Senator Robert LaFollette

- **James Mott**: Quaker businessman, accompanied his wife Lucretia Mott to the Seneca Falls Convention, chaired the first woman's rights meeting.
- **Parker Pillsbury**: anti-slavery editor who worked on *The Revolution* with Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.
- Rabbi Stephen Wise
- Stephen Foster, William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips: abolitionists who were early supporters of women's rights.
- **Robert Purvis, Frederick Douglass**: prominent black anti-slavery leaders who were lifelong suffrage allies.

IV. Opposition - Anti-Suffragists

- ✓ **Religion** was a factor of opposition in the beginning. Some church people said the Bible placed women under the power and authority of men.
- ✓ **Moralists** felt that women should devote themselves to the spiritual and family side of life; that children would go uncared for and that the morals of the nation would crumble if women got the vote.
- ✓ **The liquor industry** feared that women would outlaw the sale of alcohol. (Francis Willard, head of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, adopted suffrage as a major goal.)
- ✓ **Heads of industry** felt that if women had the right to vote, they would work for child labor laws and to improve working conditions in mills and factories.
- ✓ **Some, men and women** were opposed to change. They liked life the way it was. In 1911, **the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage** published a journal, "*Woman's Protest*."
- ✓ There were **those who believed that women were weaker** physically and mentally than men.
- ✓ **Anti-Suffragists**, both men and women, heckled the suffragists at their meetings and conventions. They also wrote articles and songs, and spoke out against women's right to vote.

V. Victory - The Nineteenth Amendment

The House of Representatives voted for the Anthony Amendment in January of 1918, after President Wilson finally made a public statement of his support. The vote was close. Four representatives, including one who had to be carried in on a stretcher, came from their sick beds to vote for the amendment. One other representative left the deathbed of his wife, a dedicated suffragist, to be present for a yes vote. The amendment then went to the Senate, where, ten months later, the vote for the amendment lost by two votes.

The suffragists continued to lobby, speak, and write for their cause **and in June of 1919, the amendment finally passed the Senate**. Now, the amendment had to be ratified by 36 states. This process took 14 months of more active work. Final ratification came with the vote of the Tennessee legislature, which barely passed it on August 24, 1920. State Representative, Harry Burn, gave a deciding vote. His mother was a suffragist and wrote to him, "Hurrah! And vote for suffrage and don't keep them in doubt."

On August 24, the Secretary of State signed the 19th Amendment into law.

Twenty-six million American women had won the right to vote in all public elections! "Actually, the last threat to woman suffrage was not defeated until February, 1922, when the U.S. Supreme Court handed down the second of two decisions upholding the 19th Amendment against further challenge." *Century of Struggle*, p. 337, *The Woman's Rights Movement in the United States*, by Eleanor Flexner.

**"Women won the vote. They were not given it, granted it, or anything else.
They won it as truly as any political campaign is ultimately won or lost."
Robert Cooney, *Women Win the Vote***

What Next?

The League of Women Voters was formed by NAWSA in 1919, for the purpose of educating women in the political process and the issues involved in local, state, and national elections. This organization remains active today.

In 1923, Alice Paul wrote an Equal Rights Amendment which was later introduced into Congress. Modeled after the Anthony Amendment, it read, "**Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.**" In 1971, the amendment was passed by the House of Representatives (354-24). It was passed by the Senate in 1972 (84-8). To become law, the amendment must be ratified by the legislatures of 38 states. By June, 1982, Ohio was one of only 35 states that had ratified it. The suffrage movement "put women back into our national history as participants. It reminds us of the necessity of progressive leaders, organizers, and visionaries in every local community. It is the origin of the yet-unpassed Equal Rights Amendment." (Robert Cooney in *Women Win the Vote*)

August 26, 1971 was first designated as Women's Equality Day, an annual commemoration of the suffrage victory and a reminder of women's continuing efforts for equality. It was 60 years after the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment before women became a significant voting block in national elections, and before many women were voted into government offices.

TIME LINE - A 100-YEAR STRUGGLE

- 1820** Susan B. Anthony born
- 1830-** Sarah and Angelina Grimke, Lucretia Mott and many other women became active in abolitionist
1840 movement in North. As women, were criticized for speaking in public and trying to influence political process
- 1840** Mott was delegate from U.S. to World Anti-Slavery Convention in London. Women denied seats and participation. Mott met Elizabeth Cady Stanton there
- 1848** Mott, Stanton and three other women organized first women's rights convention at Seneca Falls, New York. Attended by over 300 women and a few dozen men. First call for woman suffrage
- 1850-** National women's rights conventions held every year throughout country. Discussion meetings
1860 in many small towns
- 1853** Anthony spoke for women's rights at a teachers' convention
- 1854** Anthony canvassed Rochester, New York for women's rights petitions
- 1861** Women's rights national convention held in Albany, New York
- 1862** Civil War overshadowed women's campaign
- 1864** Signed petitions for women's rights submitted from all over U.S. and presented to Senator Sumner
- 1866** American equal Rights Association formed by Anthony, Stanton and Frederick Douglass to work or civil rights for recently freed blacks and all women. Stanton declared herself first woman candidate for Congress
- 1867** Anthony appointed delegate to Democratic presidential convention
- 1868** First edition of *Revolution*, Anthony's periodical for women's rights
- 1869** National Women's Suffrage Association founded by Anthony and Stanton to work for suffrage amendment and other important issues for women.
American Woman Suffrage Association formed by Lucy Stone and Julia Ward Howe for passage of extension of suffrage in various states
- 1870** 15th Amendment granted all men right to vote. Anthony had to give up *Revolution*
- 1871** Anthony traveled 8000 miles and made 108 suffrage lectures
- 1872** Anthony and 14 other women arrested for illegally voting
- 1878** Senator Sargent, California, proposed first woman suffrage amendment to Senate. Defeated
- 1882** Mary Hall first woman admitted to bar by Connecticut Supreme Court
- 1883** Anthony fined \$100 for voting. Never paid it. Washington Territory granted woman suffrage
- 1887** Washington Territory repealed woman suffrage
- 1888** First International Council of Women

- 1889** Wyoming admitted to Union as full suffrage state, first state to allow women to vote in national elections
- 1890 National and American Woman Suffrage Associations merged to form National American Woman Suffrage Association led by Stanton
- 1892** Anthony elected president of National American Woman Suffrage Association
- 1893** Suffrage passed in Colorado
- 1896** Anthony's Constitutional amendment for suffrage introduced
- 1900** Anthony retired from Association; Carrie Chapman Catt new president
- 1904** Anthony's last speech to a Senate Committee
- 1906** Anthony died
- 1908** Harriet Stanton Blatch formed Women's Political Union to increase power of movement
- 1913** Alice Paul and Lucy Burns formed Congressional Union in support of suffrage
- 1915** National Woman's Party formed by Congressional Union to campaign against President Wilson in 12 states where women had won the vote
- 1917** Women's suffrage parade in New York City; picketing at White House
- 1918** President Wilson declared support for movement
Suffrage amendment passed House of Representatives
- 1919** Amendment passed Senate
- 1920** Amendment ratified by necessary 24 states. This became the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and women of the U.S.A. were granted the right to vote.
The League of Women Voters was formed.

(from the National Women's History Project)

**Initially, the LWV was created in 1919
as an auxiliary to the National American Suffrage Association.
The League became independent in 1920.**

LOCAL SUFFRAGE HISTORY

- 1850** The Ohio Women's Rights Convention was held in Salem, Ohio, in an effort to get women's rights into the Ohio Constitution. The effort fell apart with the approach of the Civil War.
- 1869-** The Dayton Woman's Suffrage Association lasted two years. It met in the county courthouse.
- 1871**
- 1887-** The Dayton Equal Rights Association was even more short-lived.
- 1888**
- 1889** Harriet Taylor Upton, President of the **Ohio State Woman's Suffrage Association**, organized 15 chapters around the state, including the **Dayton chapter**.
- 1912** A big meeting was held in June at the YMCA to secure a suffrage amendment to the Ohio Constitution. Jessie Davisson, wife of prominent lawyer Oscar Davisson, was elected president of the **Woman's Suffrage Party of Montgomery County** and held the office until ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920. Later that year the organization's name was changed to the **Woman's Suffrage Association of Dayton and Montgomery County**. It had 25 members. Two years later there were 500 members. The biggest opponents in Ohio to woman's suffrage were the liquor and saloon interests. John H. Patterson gave the suffrage association office space in the Schwind Building and a gift of \$4,800-with strings attached. The gift must remain anonymous and they had to notify him of all other income and how it was used.
- 1913** In June, the women hired a young boy to wear a sandwich board at the newsstand at Third and Main to promote the sale of the "**Woman's Journal**." The minutes of their next meeting indicated "Good publicity from boy and sign."
- The same year the association was refused a booth at the county fair and denied permission to show the film "**Votes for Women**" at the Miamisburg Theater.
- 1915** In October the suffrage association hosted a large "auto parade" which culminated with an address on the courthouse steps by the Dayton mayor and a luncheon in the Algonquin Hotel sunparlor.
- 1916** Daytonian Katherine Talbot, President of the Ohio Association Opposed to Woman's Suffrage, appealed to the state's clergy to oppose suffrage on moral grounds.
- 1917** A bill for women's presidential suffrage was passed by the Ohio legislature. Every elected official from Montgomery County voted against it. A referendum was held to invalidate the bill. The suffragettes took it to the U. S. Supreme Court, but not in time to stop the referendum, which passed and was signed by Governor Cox.
- 1918** On June 16 the Ohio General Assembly ratified the 19th Amendment 75-5 and the Senate ratified 27-3. State Representative James Reynolds, disturbed by the legislative maneuvering surrounding the ratification drive, proposed a bill to allow Ohio women to vote for president in 1920 even if the 19th Amendment was not ratified. It passed!
- 1920** **The Dayton League of Women Voters was founded**
- 1921** **The Dayton League of Colored Women Voters was established** with Mrs. Berdie Ellis of Homestead Avenue as its first president.

VOCABULARY

abolition	lecture
advocate	legal rights
amendment	lobbying
ballot	petition
bloomer	political party
canvas	radical
civil rights	ratify
Constitution	referendum
convention	resolutions
council	revolution
discrimination	rights
enfranchisement	suffrage, anti-suffrage, suffragettes,
franchise	suffragists
international	temperance

SOME QUESTIONS TO START THE THINKING PROCESS

1. Who was allowed to vote when the Constitution was first written?
2. What was the abolitionist movement?
3. Why did women want to vote?
4. Why were women criticized for speaking in public?
5. Is suffrage important?
6. What issues besides woman suffrage were Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony concerned with?
7. What did the **American Woman Suffrage Association** and the **National Womans Suffrage Association** have in common?
8. What are the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments?
9. What territory would not come into the Union unless women had the right to vote?
10. What was the Anthony Amendment?
11. What reasons were given for opposing women's right to vote?
12. How was the British suffrage movement different from the American movement?
13. What is the Equal Rights Amendment?
14. Are there still things that need to happen in our society in order for all women to have equal rights under the law?

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

Signs, Ads

- Make signs telling about a meeting on suffrage for women; tell something about the lecturer.
- Make picket signs that might be carried in a parade for women's suffrage
- Compose an ad for the newspaper.

Role Play

- husband and wife discussing suffrage
- take the part of a suffragette and (1) tell about yourself
(2) give a lecture at a meeting
- If possible, dress the part
- stage a meeting with a lecturer and hecklers in the audience (each with a prepared text and response)
- prepare a presentation for another class (perhaps march in with picket signs)

Write a poem or a song for or against woman suffrage.

Draw a cartoon for or against woman suffrage.

Make a list of reasons given for denying women the right to vote, and a list of why they would vote.

Learn a suffragette song and sing it for the class. (Songs America Voted By, Irwin Sibling, pp. 228-234, - 784.71 S698, in Dayton Public Library)

List some mottoes or sayings that were used; create some of your own.

Prepare and present a debate: (1) supporting voter rights for women
(2) denying voter rights for women

Each team assigns a captain; each person has a prepared statement. Prepare opening and closing statements.

Research the suffrage vote passing the House and Senate (pp. 286-307, Century of Struggle, Eleanor Flexner.

Make puppets to represent the suffragists. Use them to tell about themselves and their work. Use them in a playlet about suffrage events.

A living time line -- students display dates and take turns telling what happened, or represent persons on the time line.

Have class work in groups of two -- each group assigned a name from the woman's suffrage movement; write a paragraph or more about the person and share with class; make a booklet incorporating the reports.

Pick an activity or choices in which the class will be participating. Discuss the options. Allow only the girls to vote on which option to choose. How do the boys feel to be left out?

Research The **Equal Rights Amendment**. Do women in 2001 have equal rights with men? Are there still rights to accomplish?

SKIT POSSIBILITIES

In 1874, the electors of Michigan were asked to decide by statewide referendum the question of giving suffrage to women. Susan B. Anthony, one of America's most distinguished women, was standing beside a polling booth on Election Day, asking everybody to vote for the suffrage ticket. A dirty-looking man with a ballot sheet in his hand stopped opposite her.

"What kind of a ticket is that?"

"Why, you can see for yourself," Miss Anthony said, pointing to the place on his paper.

"But, I can't read."

"What? Can't you read the ballot you have there in your hand --on which you are about to vote?"

"No, I can't read at all."

"Well," explained Miss Anthony, "the ballot means that you are willing to let the women, as well as the men, vote."

“He shook his head. “Is that so? Then I don’t want it. The women don’t know enough to vote.”
(from Women’s Rights, Olivia Coolidge p.9)

In 1886, when the Statue of Liberty was dedicated, women were not permitted to go to the ceremony. In protest, the New York Woman Suffrage Association rented a boat, made banners, and toured the island, recited a litany of unjust laws, and delivered speeches aboard the steamer. (A Time of Protest, Sally Roesch Wagner pp. 103-125)

QUOTES

“Men, their rights and nothing more; women, their rights and nothing less.” Motto from 1868 periodical, *The Revolution*.

“I do not believe that good women want the ballot; but even if they did, the question which man must determine is not affected by what women want, but by what they ought to have.” ---J. C. McQuiddy

“Call no man master.” Lucretia Mott’s motto

Carrie Chapman Catt: After the Proclamation of the Woman Suffrage Amendment to the Constitution of the U.S. had been signed: “This is a glorious, a wonderful day. I have lived to realize the great dream of my life -- the enfranchisement of women. We are no longer petitioners, we are not the wards of the nation, but free and equal citizens.” “Women have suffered agony of soul which you can never comprehend, that you and your daughters might inherit political freedom. That vote has been costly. Prize it!”

“The achievement of the vote for women was extraordinarily difficult, infinitely more so than most people realize, since those who ought to have included it in the history of this country simply obliterated the whole story.” ---Eleanor Flexner

“Perhaps some day men will raise a tablet reading in letters of gold: ‘All honor to women, the first disfranchised class in history who unaided by any political party won enfranchisement by its own effort alone, and achieved the victory without the shedding of a drop of human blood. All honor to the women of the world!’ ---Harriot Stanton Blatch

“Millions of dollars were raised, mainly in small sums, and expended with economic care. Hundreds of women gave the accumulated possibilities of an entire lifetime, thousands gave years of their lives, hundreds of thousands gave constant interest and such aid as they could. It was a continuous, seemingly endless, chain of activity. Young suffragists who helped forge the last links of that chain were not born when it began. Old suffragists who forged the first links were dead when it ended. . . .” ---Carrie Chapman Catt and Nettie Rogers Shuler, *Woman Suffrage and Politics*, 1923

RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION /RESEARCH

The books listed are available at the Dayton and Montgomery Public Library.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGE

First Women Who Spoke Out - Nancy Smiler Levinson

Grades 6 and up.

Includes biographies of Sarah and Angelina Grimke, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone and Sojourner Truth.

Mother, Aunt Susan and Me: The First Fight for Women's Rights - William Jay Jacobs

Bibliography

Sixteen year old Harriot Stanton highlights the activities of her mother and her mother's friend, Susan B. Anthony, in their effort to win equal rights for women.

The Story of Susan B. Anthony - Susan Clinton

Grades 3-5

Susan Anthony's 1872 struggle with the law when voting in Rochester, N.Y.

Account of women's lives in the 1800s.

Flashback to her home life, teaching, temperance work, work with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the women's rights movement, work with abolitionists, help by George Francis Train, the National Woman Suffrage Association formed by Anthony and Stone. Her grueling travels to find support. Retirement in 1900; death, 1906, with only Wyoming, Utah, Colorado and Idaho having given women the right to vote.

Susan B. Anthony, Crusader for Women's Rights - Matthew G. Grant

Grade 3

Brief, easy to read account of her life from birth through various conventions; *Revolution* publication; arrest for voting; U.S. Centennial Celebration; demands for women's rights to her death.

Susan B. Anthony, Pioneer in Women's Rights - Helen Stone Peterson

Grades 4-6

Susan's life from 12 to young womanhood: mill work, schooling, teaching, move to Rochester.

Resistance to all inequality. Meeting with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucy Stone. First women's rights convention. Bloomer costume. Work for equality in voting. President, Woman Suffrage Association, 1892.

Acknowledgment by Buffalo Bill. Death in 1906. Suffrage for women, 1920.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, A Biography for Young Children

- Carol Hilgartner Schlank and Barbara Metzger

Focus on her childhood. Grades K-2.

Lucretia Mott, Foe of Slavery - Doris Faber

A brief biography of the 19th century Quaker woman who was an important participant in the cause of abolition and later, in women's rights. B M92F

I Speak For the Women: A Story About Lucy Stone - Stephanie McPherson

Elementary grades

Life from childhood to adult and a speaker on civil rights issues and the belief that women have the right to be heard.

The Girl With Spunk - Judith St. George

Grades 6, 7, and up; high interest

Josie's stepfather had control of her mother's farm. He ruled with an iron hand and was mean to Josie and her mother when he drank. An understanding Quaker lady, Charlotte Woodward, who was a good friend and neighbor, tried to persuade Josie to attend the Women's Rights Convention to be held in Seneca Falls, N.Y., July 19 and 20, 1848.

This is a good presentation with an interesting story of how no one listened to a woman's side of her story. We learn about work in a textile mill, very limited opportunities for betterment for a woman, and the control men had over women. A description of this first convention and the Declaration of Sentiments, which was actually drawn up in the Quaker friend's parlor, are presented.

Six women mentioned in the novel were actual suffragists: Charlotte Woodward, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Mary Ann McClintock, June Hunt and Martha Dexter.

Radical Red - James Duffy

Grades 4-7

Connor and her mother suffered physical and mental abuse from Connor's father, depicted as the typical chauvinist of the day. He was angry with the suffragettes, demanded much from his wife, and was inconsiderate of them. Hoping to advance from policeman to chief, he worked for approval of a suffrage-opposed senator.

Connor and a friend met Susan Anthony and Bertha Hall and began, along with her mother, helping them with the movement. Susan Anthony wore a red shawl when she appeared in public so that people would recognize her. Her followers began wearing red ribbons in their hair -- radical red. Da and other police wouldn't let women enter the hall in which Susan Anthony spoke to the people of Albany. They arrested the women who formed a barricade by linking arms

When Da discovered that they were working with "that crazy woman," he hit Connor's mother and took a belt to Connor. They left home and stayed with Bertha Hall where they continued to carry on the work.

Suffragists wrote to all supporters and asked for their attendance in Albany when the amendment was up for vote. Many came and supported the cause, but it failed again

Meet Samantha, An American Girl - Susan S. Adler

In 1904, nine year old Samantha, an orphan living with her wealthy grandmother, and her servant friend Nellie have a midnight adventure when they try to find out what has happened to the seamstress who suddenly left her job.

Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller? - Alberta Wilson Constant

A 15 year old makes several discoveries about human nature while helping the local suffragettes elect the first woman mayor of Gloriosa, Kansas.

A Question of Courage - Marjorie Drake

A young English seamstress becomes involved in the Suffragette movement before World War I.

The Day the Women Got the Vote: A Photo History of the Women's Rights Movement - George Sultan

Sojourner Truth: Slave, Abolitionist, Fighter for Women's Rights - Althea Windstorm

Journey Toward Freedom, the Story of Sojourner Truth - Jacqueline Bernard

Bibliography B T8741B

Walking the Road to Freedom: A Story About Sojourner Truth - Jeri Ferris

Grades 3-6

The Story of the Nineteenth Amendment - R. Conrad Stein

Grades 3-7

JUNIOR HIGH /HIGH SCHOOL AGE

Susan B. Anthony - Barbara Weisberg

Elizabeth Cady Stanton: A Radical for Women's Rights - Lois W. Banner

Lucretia Mott: Gentle Warrior - Dorothy Sterling
Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1964

From Equal Suffrage to Equal Rights: Alice Paul and the Woman's Party - Christine A. Lunardini

Lucy Stone: Speaking Out for Equality - Andrea Moore Kerr

Sojourner Truth: Self-Made Woman - Victoria Ortiz

The American Woman: Her Changing Social, Economic and Political Roles, 1920-1970

- William Henry Chafe

Grade 9 through adult

Importance of Woodrow Wilson's pleas for woman suffrage: "The executive tasks of this war rest upon me. I ask that you lighten them and place in my hand instruments....which I do not now have, which I sorely need, and which I have daily to apologize for not being able to employ." ".....(women) are vital to winning the war and essential to implementing democracy."

Free But Not Equal: How Women Won the Vote - Bill Severn

Profiles in Black and White: Stories of Men and Women Who Fought Against Slavery - Elizabeth Chittenden

Protest I - Miriam Butwin and Pat Purmantgen

Includes the Boston Tea Party, Abolition, Women's Rights and Labor Movement

Women's Rights: The Suffrage Movement in America 1848-1920 - Olivia Coolidge

Songs America Voted By -Irwin Sibling

Part on woman suffrage: pp. 228-234, 784.71 S698

The Vote, Making Your Voice Heard - Linda Sher

7th through 10th grades

Pages 14-18: Woman's suffrage struggle from first organized fight in 1848 to 1920 and the 19th Amendment. Arguments against women voting: women not smart enough; voting should be based on ability to serve in the army; voting rights would take too much time away from women's most important duties - children and housework. Most of this book speaks to the young American about the mechanics and importance of voting today.

HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT

Century of Struggle: The Woman's Rights Movement in the United States - Eleanor Flexner
324.3 F619C

In Her Own Right: The Life of Elizabeth Cady Stanton - Elisabeth Griffith

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Woman's Liberty - Kathryn Cullen DuPont

Bloomers and Ballots, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Women's Rights - Mary Stetson Clarke
A biography of one of the early leaders of the women's rights movement and first public proponent of suffrage for women.

Oh, Lizzie! The Life of Elizabeth Cady Stanton - Doris Faber
Biography of 19th century pioneer in the women's rights movement

Valiant Friend: The Life of Lucretia Mott - Margaret Hope Bacon

Morning Star - Elinor Rice
Subject: Lucy Stone, 1818-1883

Prisons and Prisoners - Constance Lytton
Suffragettes in London; personal experiences
324.309 L998P

Rebel for Rights: Abigail Duniway - Ruth Barnes Moynihan

Ladies Were Not Expected , Abigail Scott Duniway and Women's Rights - Dorothy N. Morrison
A biography of the leader of the woman's suffrage movement in Oregon

A Time of Protest: Suffragists Challenge the Republic 1870-1887 - Sally Roesch Wagner

In the Public Interest: The League of Women Voters - 1920-1970 - Louise M. Young
324.309 Y731

Women's Suffrage in America: An Eyewitness History (reference)
- Elizabeth Frost and Kathryn Cullen-DuPont
Historical documents, correspondence, etc. Excellent reference. 1992

Congressional Quarterly, Inc.
Congress and the Nation, Vol. VI, 1981-1984, A Review of Government and Politics
(for information on the Equal Rights Amendment)

Materials Available from the NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

National Women's History Project, Dept. S, 7738 Bell Road, Windsor, CA 95492

Woman Suffrage Movement - Display Kit

National Women's History Project. Twenty-four captioned 5" by 7" b/w photos of individuals and events relative to passage of the 13th, 18th, and 19th amendments and the movement for the ERA.

Woman Suffrage Movement - Poster

National Women's History Project. Photo collage of the individuals and important events of the woman suffrage movement. Three colors, 18" by 24". \$6.00

Susan B. Anthony - Poster

Knowledge Unlimited. Full color portrait with a short biography printed on the poster. 17" by 21".

The Debate at Seneca Falls - 1848 (curriculum)

This exciting re-creation of the first women's rights convention allows students to actively debate the issue of the time, many of which are quite relevant today. Student work sheets, teachers guide with lesson plans. Takes 3-4 class periods. Grades 7-12

Seneca Falls 1848: All Men and Women are Created Equal - Elizabeth C. Shultis

A lively dramatization of the events before and during the first Women's Rights Convention. Seventeen speaking parts. 38 pages, paper. Grade 9-adult. #2106 \$6.00

Compiled by Carolyn Bridgman and Onnolee Mills

League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area

To honor the 75th Anniversary of

Passage of the 19th Amendment - Women's Right to Vote

Founding of the League of Women Voters

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