

Social Change and Political  
Equality:  
Key Issues in US Women's  
History

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“There will never be a new world order  
until women are a part of it.”

*Alice Paul*

# The Battle for Suffrage

- Declaration of Sentiments, 1848
  - Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott

# Political Arguments for Suffrage

- Liberal Feminism
  - Natural Rights
- Maternalism
  - Cult of True Womanhood (Domesticity)

# Suffrage in Social Context

- Cult of True Womanhood (or Domesticity)

Historian Barbara Welter

- Piety
- Purity
- Submission
- Domesticity

# Preparing for Battle

**"All feminists are suffragists, but not all suffragists are feminists."**

*Feminist quoted in 1913*

# DANGER!

Woman's Suffrage Would Double  
the Irresponsible Vote

It is a **MENACE** to the Home, Men's  
Employment and to All Business

Official Referendum Ballot

If you desire to vote for your question, make a cross (X) in either  
mark in the square after the word "Yes," and beneath each column.  
If you desire to vote against the question, make a cross in either  
mark in the square after the word "No," and beneath each column.

Ball Chapter 227 of the laws of 1913 provided an act providing  
the right of suffrage to women to be elected:

Yes  No



The above is an exact reproduction  
of the referendum ballot printed on  
pink paper which will be handed to  
you in your voting place on Novem-  
ber 5. Be sure and put your cross  
(X) in the square after the word  
"No" as shown here, and be sure  
and vote the pink ballot.

Manufactured by  
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# Organizing

- National Woman Suffrage Association, 1869
  - Natural rights approach
- American Woman Suffrage Association, 1869
  - Maternalist approach
  
- National American Woman Suffrage Association, 1890
  - Maternalist approach

# Alice Paul

- National Women's Party

*“Resistance to tyranny  
is obedience to God.”*

- Iron Jawed Angels:
- HUNGER STRIKE: 3:46 minutes
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pO70ZjZ0wrw&feature=related>



Alice Paul toasting (with grape juice) the passage of the 19th Amendment. August 26, 1920

# Equal Rights Amendment

- 1923, “Lucretia Mott Amendment”
- 1943, “Alice Paul Amendment”
  - Introduced in every session of Congress,
  - 1923-1972

# Twentieth Century: Social Context

## ■ Primary Sources

- ❑ Margaret Sanger, “Morality and Birth Control”
- ❑ 1943 Guide to Hiring Women
- ❑ The Good Wife’s Guide

# Equal Rights Amendment

*Section 1.* Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

*Section 2.* The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

*Section 3.* This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.



# Equal Rights Activism



Betty Friedan

Women's Strike for Equality

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9TISiMSdPk>

# Equal Rights Opposition



Phyllis Schlafly

# Political Awareness



Consciousness Raising, 1970s

# Feminist Graffiti, 1979

