

Chapter 2: All Rights Are Not Equal: Suffrage vs. the Equal Rights Amendment

Multiple Choice Questions

1. The Seneca Falls Convention resulted in the adoption of
 - A. language for the eventual 19th Amendment
 - B. the Women's Declaration of Independence
 - *C. the Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions**
 - D. a statement in support of the Emancipation Proclamation

2. This famous abolitionist was one of the first to connect discrimination to the intersectionality of being black and female.
 - A. Harriet Beecher Stowe
 - *B. Sojourner Truth**
 - C. Angelina Grimké Weld
 - D. Frederick Douglass

3. The Women's Christian Temperance Union linked the necessity of women's suffrage to
 - A. the abolishment of slavery
 - B. stopping child labor
 - *C. ending legal alcohol sales**
 - D. banning marijuana sales

4. The Supreme Court denied women's claims voting rights granted through citizenship in _____, stating that women might be citizens, but not all citizens can be voters.
 - *A. *Minor v. Happersett***
 - B. *Leser v. Garnett*
 - C. *Martin v. Massachusetts*
 - D. *Roe v. Wade*

5. Women were activated into a suffrage campaign by _____.
 - A. the American Revolution
 - B. child labor laws
 - *C. the abolition of slavery**
 - D. entry into the Spanish American War

6. One of the key differences between the groups advocating for suffrage (National American Woman Suffrage Association vs. the National Women's Party) was

A. NAWSA only wanted white women to be included in the right to vote.

***B. NAWSA advocated a state by state approach, but Alice Paul and NWP wanted a Constitutional amendment**

C. The NWP wanted only women to be able to vote for the next 3 Presidential elections to "make up" for previous voting inequality.

D. None of the options are correct

7. Women were asked to begin running for Congress by both parties immediately after suffrage passed.

A. True

***B. False**

8. The women's movement and push for the Equal Rights Amendment was driven by

***A. the exclusion of women from key civil rights legislation.**

B. legislation that specifically limited rights for women.

C. an increase in the number of women serving in the military and Congress.

D. a desire to elect the first woman to Congress

9. Opponents to women's suffrage included the church, the liquor industry, big business, and other women

***A. True**

B. False

10. Which women drafted the original Equal Rights Amendment?

A. Elizabeth Cady Stanton

B. Lucretia Mott

***C. Alice Paul**

D. Anna Howard Shaw

11. The Equal Rights Amendment was ratified.

A. True

***B. False**

12. How many states need to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in order for it to become a part of the US Constitution?

A. 28

***B. 35**

C. 38

D. 50

13. One method that could be used to revive the ratification efforts for the ERA is
- A. the 50-state strategy: get the amendment ratified to all state constitutions
 - B. to amend the Fourteenth Amendment to include sex/gender as a protected class
 - C. federal legislation that attaches equality measures to all bills
 - *D. the 3-state strategy: get three more states to ratify the amendment to pass it in the same manner as the Madison Amendment.**
14. _____, which was founded by Phyllis Schlafly, rallied women to fight ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.
- A. The Extra Responsibilities Amendment Brigade
 - *B. The Eagle Forum**
 - C. The Concerned Women of America
 - D. The Homemaker's Forum
15. One of the political lessons from suffrage and the ERA is
- *A. that social norms and attitudes must change before laws can be enacted**
 - B. that campaigns for pro-women laws and amendments need more funding
 - C. that federal campaigns are more effective than state-to-state
 - D. that women need to coopt more men to assist in the campaigns

Fill-in-the-blank Questions

1. The _____ was the first organization to call for universal suffrage, claiming the right to vote was already implied in the language of citizenship. **(American Equal Rights Association)**
2. The _____, led by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, advocated for the inclusion of women in the 15th Amendment voting rights. **(National Women's Suffrage Association).**
3. Proponents of the Nineteenth Amendment had to bow to the concerns of the cult of _____, and promote the ideas that the votes of mothers alone could clean up politics. **(domesticity)**
4. In 1970, the newly formed interest group, _____, interrupted committee hearings for the right to vote amendment for 18 – 20 years olds to extract promises to hold hearings for the Equal Rights Amendment. **(National Organization for Women)**
5. The _____ group was a spinoff from the Eagle Forum and was dedicated to stop the state-by-state ratification of the ERA. **(Stop ERA)**

Short Answer Questions

1. What were some of the arguments made against voting rights for women?

Women would negate their husband's vote; women needed to be protected against the morally corrupting influences of politics; women would need to take time away from childcare duties to travel to the polls; protect women's positions as elite volunteers.

2. What were some of the arguments made for voting rights for women?

Women's moral superiority would bring about better government; women were bound to uphold laws they had no say in without the vote; women are citizens and all citizens should be enfranchised; women would not make any progress in property rights or education without access to the vote; women could better protect children through voting.

3. What was the black women's club movement?

African American women were largely excluded from the push for the right to vote and originally formed local clubs to help with local issues the women faced. The connections between clubs became a national group, the National Association of Colored Women to assist with the issues of lynching and Jim Crow, as well as women's suffrage.

4. What were some of the arguments made for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment?

Women could be excluded from legislation that conveyed benefits only to men and that the passage of legislation that benefitted or protected women's rights could be later overturned much more easily than a Constitutional amendment. Fairness doctrine adherents argued that the ERA did not go far enough and that laws or amendments that gave special treatment to women were needed to overcome the past burdens.

5. What were some of the arguments made against the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment?

The ERA would force women into labor outside of the home; it would give men a reason to leave families and marriages, as women would be held to the same standards in divorce and custody arrangements; it would require women to register for military selective service; it would compromise traditional family values.

6. What are the two ways that the Equal Rights Amendment could still be ratified?

One way is to have Congress pass the ERA and send it to the states for ratification (the ERA has been reintroduced at each legislative session by Rep. Maloney since 1997). Another way is to use the Madison Amendment ratification as the 27th Amendment as precedent. It suggests that amendments never expire and so only three more states could ratify the ERA and it would become the 28th Amendment.

7. What arguments have ERA proponents made to explain why they feel we still need to pass the ERA?

Proponents of the ERA have noted that, as Justice Scalia pointed out, there is no explicit protection for women under the 14th Amendment. They have also argued that federal legislation adopted to specifically eradicate a form of discrimination has fallen short. For example, even with the Equal Pay Act, women are still paid less than men. They also believe that ratifying the ERA would be an important statement of our nation's values.

8. Discuss the main points of one of the three political lessons about gender equality.

- A change in social norms and attitudes about women must precede a legal change, particularly in the case of a constitutional amendment. The 19th Amendment passed largely because most men and women had already decided to support suffrage for women, as the discussions of the need for it had changed minds over time. The ERA passage was attempted during times where the notion of women's equality was not as solid. It suggests that public opinion campaigns are incredibly important before ratification campaigns.
- The role that states play in the pursuit of gender equality should not be underestimated. States may take action on issues, regardless of the national government's action (or lack thereof). State actions allow for the legal avenues to gain a foothold. Some states allowed women to vote before the 19th Amendment, which helped with the passage of suffrage, while other states passed their own versions of the ERA. State legislatures can be significant allies in the formation of federal legislation.
- All women are not alike. There is no sex solidarity in pursuit of gender equality. One group of women should not assume that another group of women holds the same definition of equality or protection. Equality and fairness can be two different concepts to different women.

Essay Questions

1. In Chapter 2 of the textbook, Ford discusses the relationships women's groups have built with other social movements to gain voting rights. Choose any one alliance from the Ford textbook and discuss what women gained from the alliance, the roles women played in both movements, and the eventual outcome for both groups.
2. Compare the tactics and message of the proponents and opponents of the Equal Rights Amendment.