

## Entry Task - journal

Write a 20 word summary of what we have learned about progressivism so far.

Today: Women's Suffrage

## Objectives

**Content:** I can assess the strength of the two strategies for winning women's suffrage used by activists in the early 20th century.

**Language:** I can analyze quotes in order to determine their meaning.



# Discuss the questions at your table



What do you see here?

Around what year do you think this photograph was taken?

Why?


How do you think the public would have responded to this image?



The background is a solid orange color. In the top-left corner, there are three vertical bars of varying heights, each composed of several overlapping circles. In the bottom-right corner, there are four vertical bars of increasing height from left to right, each also composed of several overlapping circles.

# Women's Suffrage Notes

# Seneca Falls, New York 1848

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- In the early 1800s, many women were involved in the **abolition** and **temperance** (no alcohol movements)
  - A group of **women and men** gathered at a conference in **Seneca Falls**, NY in **1848**
  - This conference was led by **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** and **Lucretia Mott**



## Seneca Falls, New York 1848

- **Goal:** “to discuss the **social**, **civil**, and **religious** condition and **rights** of woman.”
- Took place over 5 days in July 1848
- It was only advertised by an unsigned notice in the *Seneca County Courier*
- “The convention will not be so large as it otherwise might be, owing to the busy time with the farmers,” Mott told Stanton, “but it will be a beginning.”



## Seneca Falls, New York 1848

- About **300** people including 40 men attended
- Conference attendees wrote the **Declaration of Sentiments**
  - Struggled over passing a resolution to include women's suffrage
  - 100 men and women signed the Seneca Falls Declaration

Read the declaration and think about the questions below.  
Discuss the questions with a partner We will go over these  
as a whole class.

1. Why did the women at Seneca Falls choose to copy the Declaration of Independence?
2. What were 3 things they complained about?
3. Are you surprised by any of the grievances?
4. Do any of the grievances seem like they're still true today?





## 15th Amendment, 1871

- Granted **African-American** men the right to vote
- Disappointed many women who thought African American men AND women would be **enfranchised together**
- African Americans were split over whether men should get the vote before women

## **Frederick Douglass, 1869 (former slave)**

“When women, because they are women ... are dragged from their houses and hung upon lamp posts; when their children are torn from their arms, and their brains dashed upon the pavement ... Then they will have an urgency to obtain the ballot equal to our own.”

**But was this not true for black women?**

“Yes, yes, yes. It is true for the black woman but not because she is a woman but because she is black!”

*From a debate at an Equal Rights Association Meeting, May 12-14, 1869*

# Sojourner Truth, 1869 (former slave, woman)



“There is a great stir about colored men getting their rights, but not a word about the colored women ... And if colored men get their right, and not colored women theirs, you see the colored men will be masters over the women, and it will be just as bad as it was before.”



## Voting for Women before 1910

- **National American Woman Suffrage Association**  
(NAWSA)
- **Leaders:** Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- **2 BIG STRATEGIES:**
  - Try to win suffrage **state by state**
  - Try to pass a Constitutional Amendment (but this would need to be ratified by **3/4** of the states of 36 states)

# Pros and Cons?

Win suffrage STATE BY STATE

PRO

CON

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

PRO

CON

**Which strategy do you think is better? Why?**

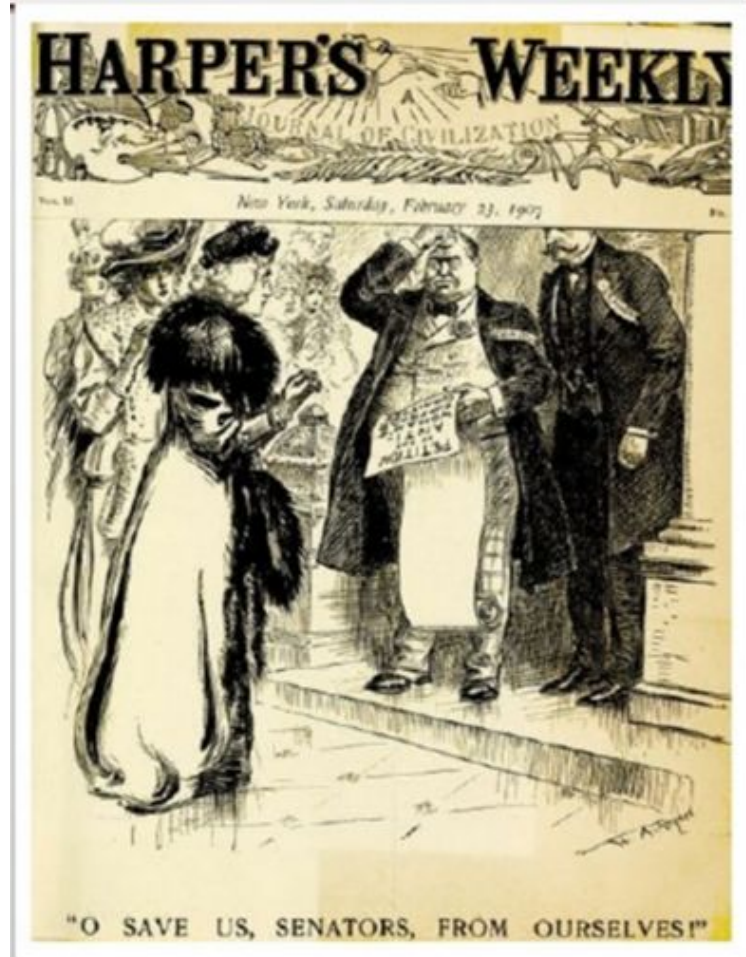
## Susan B. Anthony (NAWSA)

- In the **late 1800s** tried several times to introduce an Amendment bill for women's suffrage
- Always killed in **Senate**



## Anti-Suffragists

- Those who **opposed** extending the right to vote to women were called **anti-suffragists**
- Many were women!



Political cartoon mocking anti's: "O Save Us, Senators, from Ourselves!"





## Beliefs of Anti-Suffragists

- Women were high strung, **irrational**, and emotional
- Women were not smart or **educated** enough
- Women should **stay at home**
- Women were too **physically frail**; they would get tired just walking to the polling station
- Women would become **masculine** if they voted

## Caption:

“The repertoire of this admirable combination includes all the familiar sophisticated melodies:

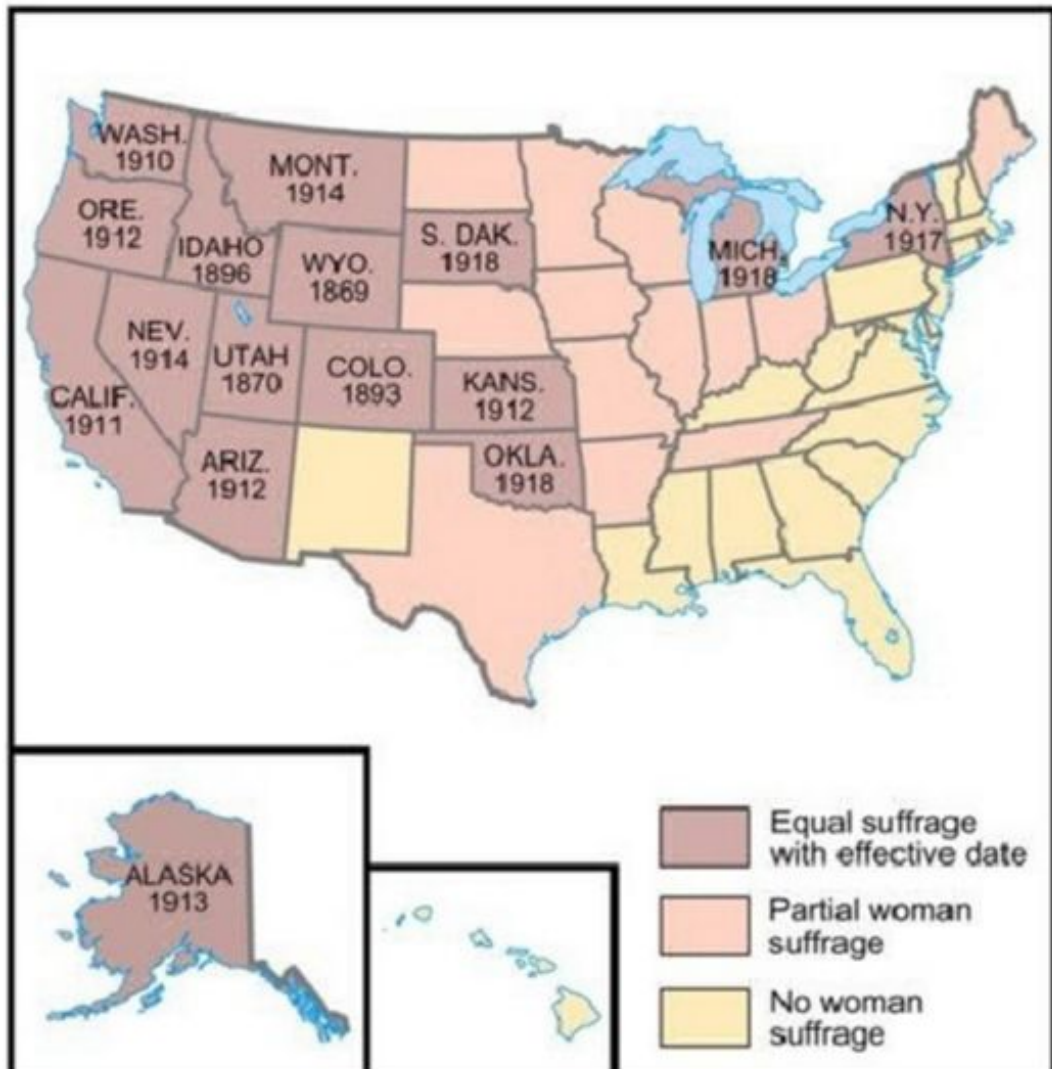
“Protect the Home,” “Sweet Woman’s Sphere’s the Home,” “Keep Your Dear Mother Out of Politics,” “Oh Leave Things A They Be,” “Let the Woman Mind the Baby,” “Let Em Use Their Influence,” etc. etc. etc.



# Argument Against Women's Suffrage, 1911

- J.B. Sanford, Chairman of the Democratic Caucus
- Discussing the movement to get an amendment passed that would give the right to vote to women
- Questions to consider as you read:
  - What are Sanford's main reasons that women should not vote?
  - Why might this encourage women to support the anti-suffragist movement?
  - What do you think about this text?

# Map of Women's Suffrage Before 1920



# Why were some of the western States open to women's suffrage long before the East?

- Many of the states were **sparsely populated** and if women counted they would have **more representation** in Congress
  - **House of Representatives** is by **population**
- The West in general had been less tied to tradition
- The **Populist** movement, which took place in the 1880s and 1890s, **politicized** many women
- In **Utah**, the **Mormons** support woman suffrage so that women could vote in support of pro-Mormon practices and laws



## The Next Generation

- Elizabeth Cady Stanton died in 1902
- Susan B. Anthony died in 1906
- **Early 1900s**: many **young, middle-class** women were going to **college** and joining the suffrage movement
- Many **working class** women also joined the cause hoping the right to vote would help **improve** working conditions

# Carrie Chapman Catt



- Led the National Woman Suffrage Movement (NAWSA)
- Careful **state-by-state** strategy
- **Supported** President Wilson even though he didn't outright support suffrage because **Democrats** were a safer bet than Republicans (more traditionalists)
- Acting **ladylike** was **VERY** important so as to not **EMBARRASS** the movement

# Alice Paul

- Led the **National Woman's Party (NWP)** and believed in more aggressive strategies
- **Constitutional Amendment**
- Adopted un-ladylike strategies from **British** suffragists (e.g. **heckling** politicians, **picketing**, etc.)
- **Refused** to support President Wilson if he wouldn't support women's suffrage
- NWP members were **arrested** for picketing in front of the **White House**.
  - Put in jail, went on a hunger strike, and were force-fed





## 19th Amendment, 1920

- **Tennessee** was the 36th state to ratify the amendment, and it was the deciding factor
- The **rights** 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.

## Homework:

*Iron Jawed Angels*

pre-viewing assignment.

Due on Wednesday!

