Women’s Suffrage Show And Tell
Alisa Blaauw

Grade: 11
Objectives: Students will analyze primary source material in regard to the women’s suffrage movement in the United States and share their source and analysis with classmates.

Curriculum Map: Post Civil War Growth and Change

Sunshine State Standards: S.S.A.5.4, S.S.C.1.4, S.S.C.2.4

Materials: Document Analysis Worksheets and Primary Sources

Sources:
http://www.zianet.com/lwv/lorenzo.htm,
http://smithsonian.org/,
http://memory.loc.gov/learn/community/cc_herstory_kit.php,

Time: 90 to 180 minutes

Terms To Know:
Suffrage: The right to vote
Disenfranchise: Prevent voting rights
Petition: A formally drawn request, often bearing the names of a number of those making the request, that is addressed to a person or group of persons in authority or power, soliciting some favor, right, mercy, or other benefit: a petition for clemency; a petition for the repeal of an unfair law.
NAWSA: National American Woman Suffrage Association
Constitutional Amendment: To change the constitution

Lesson Plan:

1. Pre-teach the Terms To Know.
2. Option 1: Take students to computer lab and have them go to any of the links above and choose a primary source to analyze.
   Option 2: Use any number of the primary sources I have attached here.
   Option 3: Teacher visits the above websites and chooses sources for student analysis
3. Once students have a primary source to analyze, give them the analysis worksheet.
4. Have students fill out the worksheet and bring to you for approval.
5. Students will then share their primary source document and their analysis with the rest of the class/to their group (if you have put them in groups).
6. As assessment, students will complete the TAH DBQ title: Anti-Suffrage vs. Pro-Suffrage for Women in America.
After more than four score and six years of strenuous life, I wish that I might do something to help roll back the on-coming tide of human woes. From a true viewpoint the cause of Woman Suffrage is one of these woes, and is the most unreasonable, and portends the greatest danger, of anything now demanding public consideration. The cry of Votes for Women is world-wide and the hour has struck when this question ought to be intelligently settled. No man who understands the divine purpose of the world's creation, that it was for the abode of moral beings, can consistently advocate Woman Suffrage. It required infinite cost to get the world ready for the dwelling place of the human race, and when God created man he created him male and female. This dual nature was necessary in order to provide for the world's highest good. Together the twain make the divine unit, only that the sex determines the duties of the respective parts of the unit. The diverse natures of the man and the woman define the kinds of service for each to perform for their mutual welfare. Rightly understood it will be seen that all this was a Master Stroke of Infinite Wisdom.

Labor always was and always will be a necessity, and the same infinite wisdom saw fit to make a division of that labor. To this end man has his sphere and woman has her sphere, and though they are interwoven and intermingled they work together in perfect harmony. Anything that
distorts this arrangement brings discord and loss. At the outset, through the ordinance of marriage, provision was made for the performance of every duty needful to fulfill the divine command to "Multiply and replenish the Earth." Indeed this arrangement lays the foundation for the home, the central force for the perpetuation of the human family. From the time man was given dominion over the world, its business, in all its varied forms, has been carried on by man, and prosperity has always depended upon well directed labor, man doing his part and woman doing her part.

In man's realm naturally came all the great outside activities. The world was given to man in the rough, in its wild uncultivated condition needful for support through continuous seed-time and harvest. All the great industries have always fallen to man's lot. He had to build, equip, and manage all the railroads, and all the ships that plough the mighty deep. He is the architect and builder of all the edifices of the world from the mere but to the half a hundred story, skyscraper. From the bowels of the earth he has to mine the precious metals, and the coal and oil to provide for the business world's great needs. He tunnels the mountains and bridges the chasms. He built the pyramids and all the towers of the ages. To man alone has come the responsibility of solving all the great engineering problems. Just now he has completed the most gigantic work in the world's history. For the improvement of commerce he has constructed the Panama Canal--a thing which required the separation of the two great American Continents, and uniting the two greatest oceans on the globe. He has cabled the seas from shore to shore, and by scientific knowledge and invention has so annihilated space as to communicate, one locality with another, until the human family is just one great neighborhood. One neighbor speaks with another and knows the voice a thousand miles away. And just before us is the great question of deep waterways. By irrigation man converts the barren lands into fertile fields, and into gardens, orchards and vineyards. Man navigates the air with a skill and speed that language has no power to describe. And just now man has achieved such wonderful accomplishments through undersea craft that the world stands in awe and inquires--"Has the impossible come to pass?" All these and thousands of other things needful to carry on the world's business are accomplished by man and regulated by law.

The point I make is that the giving of votes to women means the passing of the control of the world's business to woman. It means the giving to her the balance of power in the management of the great affairs of which she can have no intelligent knowledge nor take any active part. Manifestly all the world's great business ought to be under control of those who perform the service. Inasmuch as woman is not man's superior, physically, mentally, or morally, no gain could come from giving her an equal voice in all these matters. Careful study discovers that the result would be harmful instead of helpful. Believe that if suffrage were given to women more than one half of them could not be at the polls on election day. Half the world is rural and this better half would be at their homes caring for their families. The voice of the other half, made up of the baser sort, would bring a result that would send the world downward instead of upward. In the large cities questions of doubtful character would be carried.

The object of this paper is to sift this question to the bottom. This leads to the inquiry as to where the cry of "Votes for Women" comes from. Right soon it will be seen that it comes from the discontented, mannish women, the crowing hens of the human family. They are not satisfied with their lot. They aspire to man's work and man's wages. They want his offices and his honors. They seek the limelight to attract attention by resorting to most ridiculous performances. The hiking of
certain women from one city to another is a revelation of what they really are. We call to mind the boldest and most senseless exhibition of American women that the world has ever seen. They saw fit to gather themselves together for a national rally in connection with the last presidential inaugural. On the day before the inauguration they marched through the streets of the nation's capital making display of themselves in a most ridiculous fashion. With the city of Washington crowded to its capacity to care for the inaugural occasion what business had the fanatical suffragettes of the continent to demand consideration at such a time? In such congested condition was it any wonder that the populace showed their disgust, and that the official forces did not approve it? The truth is that Woman Suffragists nor any other organization had any business there. Like the whole of the suffragette conduct, it was out of place.

The woman suffragist spirit can never be trusted. The leading suffragettes of the world have been guilty of unjustifiable behavior, even to the wanton destruction of property. They openly declare that, at all hazards, they will have the franchise. They say that they will win their cause, by fair means if they can; if not, they will resort to force and violence. These women run riot by destroying mail, by daubing with paint, by desecrating the parks, by throwing acids, by breaking plate glass windows, by burning railroad depots, and by throwing bombs to destroy property and endanger human life. To grant votes to women means to take these outlaws into partnership. In a word, we enquire-- will the people make it possible for these law-breakers to become law-makers? Along this line realize that, if woman suffrage comes at all, the body-politic must deal with the meaner sort of women, those who propose to rule or ruin, and that the voice of the better part could never be heard to save such disaster. Also realize that there is no remedy because of the fact that more than half the women are mothers, more or less of them in such condition that they could not participate in an election. True modesty would forbid it and every woman has a right to the privacy of motherhood. By the side of all this is the fact that the good sense of all the better women is such that the meddling with politics is distasteful. Indeed it is believed that more than one half the women do not want the franchise. By divine decree women bear the children and the true woman very well knows that she is best fulfilling her mission when she is honoring motherhood. Yes, God made the good mothers, but he never made a suffragette!

A salient fact is that children are the hope of the world and their character will determine what the world shall be. And here is the field for woman's greatest usefulness. She will be worth untold more to rear her children well than she can be in politics. Already the great danger of the future is shadowed in the laxity of child-training. The general lack of guidance and restraint is the mistake of the age. The chief thought of the children of now-a-days is for a good time. Their whole bent is for fun and frolic. They have no ambition to be industrious and useful. They run wild and grow more and more daring. What wonder is it that such living early ripens into crime to such extent that the juvenile courts of the large cities are overtaxed with business. The result of ungoverned childhood is weak manhood and weak womanhood and often leads to an early marriage of lust instead of love. Then the divorce mill is put to grinding. Another particularly sad fact is that the children are not taught to properly observe the Sabbath. They neither get the rest nor the moral training that they need. Their minds are filled with things entirely unsuited to the sacredness of the day. They go fishing, hunting, swimming and skating on the Sabbath, and think more of going to a Sunday ballgame than they do of going to Sunday School. They enjoy all the blessings of a Christian civilization, brought down through the ages by the church, and yet fail to support the church by their presence or by their means. Spoiled children are the greatest loss that can come to the world. This is why I plead for intelligent and consecrated motherhood.
I am not writing these things because I love woman less, but more. I speak from observation and experience, and have a case at hand which helps to tell the story. My own mother was one of the world's best women. Bereft of her mother at four years of age she was the little housekeeper for her father's family at the age of ten years. She had education sufficient to teach school during her young womanhood. She was married at the age of twenty years and bore eleven children, nine of whom reached manhood and womanhood. She reared six sons to their majority and was thus represented in politics by her husband and six sons—seven votes in the family. What reason had she for Woman Suffrage? And I know that she would never have gone to the polls on election day. She had quite enough to do without the addition of political responsibility. She lived to the good old age of 86 years. Such women are satisfied to be represented in politics by the man who by divine decree is the head of the family, and while the world stands there will never be any better plan. Of course there will be difficulties and the Ship of State will be rocked and tossed about on the political sea, needing the skillful pilot to keep her on her way. But think of the assumption of the unskilled women in their proposition to be taken on board and given equal responsibility at the helm!

The great trouble in handling this question is the difficulty of discussing its delicate features. There are many things that can neither be spoken nor written. Physicians tell us that "The avoiding of motherhood, particularly in large cities, is awful—beyond words to tell." an eminent divine says—"The crime of race-suicide is one of the most terrible with which present civilization has to deal, that it is cruelty greater than that of Herod." He asks—"What must we think of the parents who profane the sacrament of matrimony by continuing to frustrate the designs of God by banishing and destroying infants even before they come into the world?"

Closely related to the avoidance of motherhood is the shirking of its obligations. On this point a foreign lady whose education and observation give value to her opinion, speaks freely. She criticizes our country by saying—"The American women should pay more attention to their homes, make the home first and society and suffrage second." also she says—"I find that the average middle class and well-to-do American women pay too little attention to the personal supervision of their children. They either entrust their raising to a nurse girl or go at it in a slipshod fashion using what spare time they can take from their society and suffrage affairs." The duties of the wife and mother cannot be neglected short of great loss. The home must be kept tidy and clean. "Cleanliness is next to Godliness." and good cooking and good housekeeping will do more to make good laws than all woman could do with the ballot. A few good and well-meaning women have stood for equal suffrage. Their chief motive has been to help the cause of temperance. They hoped to do away with the poverty and suffering of the drunkard's wife and children. They had hope in other directions to make the world better. Tis well that their names should be honored.

I have referred to the suffrage performance in connection with the presidential inaugural. But this is only a single instance of their public interference. It has come to pass that a political convention cannot be held anywhere but this disturbing suffrage element is present making some demand. They disgust the sensible and capture the senseless.

If woman was in any way oppressed, or deprived of any natural right, we ought to hasten, at any cost, to correct the evil. But we cannot find that she is. Take her claim of being taxed without representation. This has a deceptive ring to it because of the claim that it is the nature of the oppression of our forefathers who were taxed without return. The cases have no similarity and
therefore there is nothing to it. If in the matter of taxation there was discrimination against woman her complaint would be valid. But see, dollar for dollar of valuation as compared with property related to hers, she only pays the same and enjoys the same benefits. And yet comes the fool cry--"No Vote, No Tax." But this shows the spirit of the she-devil kind of suffragists.

Again, woman's claim for equal compensation for service has no meaning. By nature she cannot do equal work with man. As a rule she cannot do his work at all. She was not made to perform the heavy service and endure the great exposures which fall to man's lot. Her sex doomed her to wear skirts, and while this is well for her, the world's great business could never be performed in such a garb. At clerical work, at teaching, and in numerous other ways woman performs valuable service and ought to be equitably compensated for it. But hers is subordinate work and cannot command wages beyond its rank. It must also be taken into account that there is an uncertainty of tenure in woman's case, a fact which must be reckoned with in fixing the price. At all events there is no occasion for the ballot to be given to regulate the price of labor. There is not only no discrimination against woman but she is favored by law. This is forcibly put when it is said--"What's a woman's is a woman's," and she can hold and sell real estate without the approval or consent of any body. But a man cannot sell a rod of land without his wife's participation in the deal. Her right of dower is sure under the law, but man has no such right. Indeed, in all the civilized world the gallantry of man constitutes a defense and protection for woman. With his strong arm backed by his valiant nature man is always on the alert to guard and shield woman from danger. This is truly one of the most beautiful and charming relations in life. Woman knows it and graciously accepts it. See that the triumph of equal suffrage would mean the loss of it. Will woman barter away this birthright?

I am not writing this article because of any ordinary motive. It is because that from a conscientious study of this subject I see impending danger. I am aware that I may offend many good people and very likely make enemies. But no good cause can be advocated short of opposition. I feel that at my advanced age, so soon to end my earthly career, I must put myself on record against the equal suffrage movement. I am sure that there is no good reason for it. All the claims for it are without foundation. History shows that no country, even where it has been tried the longest, has ever been made better by it. Women who, under excitement, espoused this cause have seen the error of their way and repented. They have seen their mistake and confessed it. Hear the testimony of one good woman who says--"I worked hard for the franchise in Colorado because I believed it would tend to uplift politics, and because I believed women had a right to vote. We have had the franchise in Colorado for 19 years, a long enough period to have tested out its worth, and today I am free to say that should the question be put to vote whether to continue the franchise for women or recall it. I would vote for its recall, and I firmly believe over one-half the women of Colorado would also vote that way." This is the admission of a woman of ability and experience who has been right on the ground to observe the working of woman suffrage. And there is plenty more testimony of this same sort.

Some people point to the fact that there are many bright women who know more than their husbands and therefore that they ought to have the right to vote. This is no argument. Such people do not seem to know that just one-half of the men marry their superiors, and the other half marry their inferiors, and that precisely the same is true of the women--one-half marry up and the other half marry down. Men and women never marry their exact equals. No--can't pick out the
bright women to do the voting. If suffrage is granted at all it must be granted to all and as women
as a whole are not brighter than the men there is nothing to it.

Hear one writer in his opposition to suffrage. He says--"I aver that the good mother of a family is
the most perfect creation of God, that you cannot circumscribe her influence when that influence
is used for the rearing of christian and patriotic sons, and daughters to be gentle and virtuous
women. When she recognizes that in molding their lives she models the state, and that what the
home is the nation will be--then I say her influence for good is limitless, exceeds the bounds of
earth and reaches to heaven. Therefore, I believe anything that would destroy or lessen this
salutary influence will have a calamitous result, and that nothing will more surely destroy it than to
take woman from her eminent position and lower her into the world of politics."

Another says--"Woman is not only the mother of the family, she is the mother of civilization. As
mother in the family she is the carver of character, the molder of morals, the inspirer of ideals,
and the shaper of the world's destiny. So soon as children outgrow, or lose respect for their
mother, society is endangered. No people can be great that has ignoble mothers, and no people
can be ignoble that has high-minded mothers. The home is the keystone in the arch of society,
and since the mother makes the home, all perfection of strength and beauty in the social order
depends on the character of our women." How true and beautiful are these utterances.

But I want to give the opinion of another man of the highest natural ability and attainments. I
quote as follows: "Senator Elihu Root of New York has entered the fight which is waging between
the women suffrage advocates and the antis by declaring himself unequivocally in opposition to
votes for women." He says, "I am opposed to the granting of suffrage to women, because I
believe it would be a loss to women, to all women, and to every woman, and because I believe it
would be an injury to the state, and to every man and woman in the state. It would be useless to
argue this if the right of suffrage were a natural right. If it were a natural right then women should
have it though the heavens fall. But if there be any one thing settled in the long discussion of this
subject, it is that suffrage is not a natural right but simply a means of government, and the sole
question to be discussed is whether government by the suffrage of men and women will be better
government than by the suffrage of men alone. The question is therefore a question of
expediency and the question of expediency upon this subject is not a question of tyranny, but a
question of liberty, a question of the preservation of free constitutional government, of law, order,
peace and prosperity. Into my judgment there enters no element of the inferiority of woman. It is
not that woman is inferior to man, but it is that woman is different from man; that the distribution of
powers, of capacities, of qualities, our Maker has created Man adapted to the performance of
certain functions in the economy of nature and society, and woman adapted to the performance
of other functions. I have said that I thought suffrage would be a loss for women; I think so
because suffrage implies not merely the casting of the ballot, the gentle and peaceful fall of the
snowflake; but suffrage, if it means anything, means entering upon the field of political life, and
politics is modified war. In politics there is struggle, strife, contention, bitterness, agitation, heart-
burning excitement--everything which is adverse to the true character of woman. Woman rules
today by the sweet and noble influence of her character. Put woman into the arena of conflict and
she abandons these great weapons which control the world, and she takes into her hands
weapons with which she is unfamiliar and which she is unable to wield." As clear and
comprehensive as is the foregoing, remember that this strong indictment of the suffrage plague is
by a man of world-wide reputation who knows more of our national and international laws than any other man.

See how Mr. Root strikes at the effect upon woman of the contention, strife, struggle, and bitterness of politics, then follow out this fact a little further. The effect is not upon woman alone but upon the children she brings into the world. She is not only spoiled herself, but she spoils her offspring. Think of the accuracy of the natural law of gravitation and then think of that other natural law of heredity, and know that one is as accurate as the other, and by the same Author. In heredity it is fundamental that "like begets like." By parental impress the mother gives character to the unborn. She shapes the child from conception to birth by what she is. If the mother is cross, contentious, irritable and excitable, it follows that the offspring will be like her. The child simply reflects what its mother was during pregnancy. Hence, it is all-important that the mothers shall continuously be in a right frame of mind. There is no responsibility like it. And this is not all, wait a generation until these spoiled children themselves become parents, and know that continuously things will go from bad to worse. The true christian mother realizes all this and governs herself accordingly. She not only aims to keep herself in a calm and serene state of mind, but she goes farther and prays for her unborn babe. Barring accidents she is mistress of her condition continually. Her life is giving bent to the life for which she is responsible. Then she follows the little one up through its early years shaping its character as no other mortal can. Next to the Divine love is mother-love and this is constantly exercised to give moral uplift to her offspring. I know something of this from my own experience. Let a single instance illustrate. I well remember how, on one Sabbath evening when I was a little more than two years of age, my mother led me out through a pasture field and sat down upon a rock, and that she knelt beside that rock with me at her side and with her hand on my head offered a mother's prayer. In stead of clamoring for votes for women she was heading her boy for a life of usefulness here and for the blessed eternity beyond. This is infinitely better than for women to enter the whirlpool of politics. When woman is worth more in politics than she is in motherhood I will be a free suffragist and not until then.

Notwithstanding all the reasons that show Woman Suffrage to be a folly and a crime we have men who aspire to high places in governmental affairs who favor it. Such men are unfit for any positions. They are too weak to be entrusted with the great interests of the people. High up in this list is the name of Theodore Roosevelt who has flaunted his views on this subject everywhere by every means of communication. His conduct has simply been disgusting. Same with Hon. William Jennings Bryan.

Closely related to the case of Mr. Roosevelt is that of President Woodrow Wilson. Whatever his views may have been earlier he too has championed this unholy cause. His views were especially importuned during the lovesick period of courting his new wife and he fell down and pointed out his own way of getting it.

Now, the probing Committee which has been sounding Hon. Charles E. Hughes on this question finds that he had heretofore been opposed to it but has changed his mind. The committee reported him as having said "He felt that continued refusal by men to admit women to such participation might result in the organization of women on sex lines. Therefore he would favor granting the vote to women by the most expeditious method possible." He goes farther by pointing out a hurry-up plan to get it. Mr. Hughes' attitude caps the climax.
Though I voted in 1852 for James G. Birney, the Liberty candidate; in 1856 for John C. Fremont, the Pathfinder; in 1860 for Abraham Lincoln, on the platform, "No More Slave Territory," and won out, and for every republican candidate since, making 16 times, and, to make it 17 times, intended to vote for Mr. Hughes on the 7th day of November, 1916, I cannot now do so.

If Woman Suffrage should be adopted in the United States, see what would come the very first thing. The number of votes would be increased and the cost of every election would be correspondingly increased. Thus millions of dollars would be worse than thrown away. The very first election would show up the danger of Woman Suffrage. First--a majority of the women, which includes the mothers, and that large element of the women who represent the truest and most beautiful type of womanhood, would not be there. Second--The bold, discontented, clamoring, half-crazy for publicity and power, and the home-neglecting women together with the on-coming host of girls just reaching their majority, not informed in regard to governmental affairs who rush to the polls just for the novelty of it, would be there. The logical deduction is plain that nothing but loss comes from trying to use women to do men's business. And yet we are told that "women through suffrage are just coming to be recognized as human beings."

Finally--See the Woman Suffrage question just as it is--no reason for it and every reason against it. As this is probably the last paper I shall ever write, really the closing article of my life, and upon a question vital to the well-being of the world, I ask careful consideration of all I say. Believe that I do not write for any personal gain but only for the public good. Since I have been asking attention in various ways for more than half a century it is only just to myself to state that it has always been for some public interest. For 15 years I officially sought something that would give growth and character to Hillsdale College and it is still in the memory of some people that I won out to such extent that it will forever be stronger than it would otherwise have been.

Coming down later I became interested in the City itself to centralize it and give it symmetrical growth. In this I have been so successful in laying plans, in raising money, and in obtaining outside gifts, that the City is on its way to be a more beautiful and prosperous city than it would have been but for my voluntary and uncompensated service. I do not speak of these things to in any way boast of myself, but to remind the people of the fact that it has always been my chief aim to make myself useful. This being understood I can confidently ask everybody to give heed to what I say concerning the subject of this little book.

Just to pay the printer's bill and postage, I want to sell this booklet as follows: 1 copy, 10 cents; 3 copies, 25 cents; 10 copies, 50 cents; 25 copies, $1.00; 100 copies, $3.00; 250 copies, $5.00; 500 copies, $7.50; 1,000 copies, $10.00.

You are invited to help. Address

L. P. Reynolds

Hillsdale, Michigan

Etheridge, Grand Rapids
"Let Us All Speak Our Minds," from Elizabeth Knight: Songs of the Suffragettes

"Let Us All Speak Our Minds," from the recording entitled Elizabeth Knight: Songs of the Suffragettes, Folkways FH 5281, provided courtesy of Smithsonian Folkways Recordings. © 1958. Used by permission.

While not directly a suffrage song, "Let Us All Speak Our Minds" is considered the most forthright, outspoken feminist musical statement of the era. Philip D. Jordan, an authority on the period, says: "The songs of women’s independence were both applauded and hissed during America’s coming of age, but none received more defiant approval or contempt than the song of the militant feminist;’Let Us All Speak Our Minds if We Die For It.’"

Partial Lyrics:
"…And all ladies I hope who’ve with husband to cope,
With the rights of the sex will not trifle.
We all, if we choose, our tongues but to use,
Can all opposition soon stifle;
Let man, if he will, then bid us be still
And silent, a price he’ll pay high for it.
For we won’t and we can’t and we don’t and we shan’t,
Let us all speak our minds if we die for it."

"Give the Ballot to the Mothers," from Elizabeth Knight: Songs of the Suffragettes

"Give the Ballot to the Mothers" from the recording entitled Elizabeth Knight: Songs of the Suffragettes, Folkways FH 5281, provided courtesy of Smithsonian Folkways Recordings. © 1958. Used by permission.

The song literature of the suffrage movement abounds with references to "mothers" voting—and even those who were unmoved by pleas for women’s rights at the ballot box could not help but feel some twinge of conscience at the thought of denying a fundamental right to "mother."

Partial Lyrics:
"...Bring the dear old banner, boys
And fling it to the wind;
Mother, wife and daughter,
Let it shelter and defend.
'Equal Rights' our motto is,
We’re loyal to the end--
Giving the ballot to the mothers

Hurrah! Hurrah!
We bring the jubilee!
Hurrah! Hurrah!
The homes they shall be free!

So we’ll sing the chorus from the mountains to the sea--
Giving the ballot to the mothers."

Document 4

Nell Richardson, Alice Burke, and the “Golden Flier"
Currently on display
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On April 6th, 1916, in an attempt to influence politicians and public opinion, suffragists Nell Richardson and Alice Burke, with their newly acquired kitten Saxon, left New York and began to drive across and around the country to drum up support for voting rights for women. Their yellow Saxon automobile, nicknamed the “Golden Flier,” became a moving symbol of women’s rights and a podium for speeches in many towns and cities. Sponsored by the National American Woman Suffrage Association, the trip began and ended in New York City. Burke, Richardson, and Saxon, who by the time the women got back to New York at the end of September 1916 was, in the words of one newspaper, “nearly full grown” traveled for nearly five months and covered more than 10,000 miles.

Physical Description
**Details**

**Date Made:** 1916

**History**

In 1916, the race for the Presidency was on, and supporters of women's suffrage fought to get the Republican Party, the Progressive Party, and the Democratic Party to add a suffrage plank to their party platforms. Although some women did vote in elections because the states they lived in allowed them to, suffragists wanted to pass a constitutional amendment that supported women's suffrage. Large numbers of women attended both the Republican convention in Chicago, and the Democratic convention in Saint Louis. Suffrage activists staged marches, and engaged in street theater to try to get their message across to delegates. In St. Louis, democrats had to walk through four to five thousand silent women, wearing yellow ribbons and carrying golden parasols to get into the convention. Pro-suffrage forces didn't succeed in their goals in 1916, but in 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment passed, enshrining women's right to vote in the constitution.

**Document 5**

*Pulling Alice Ramsey's Maxwell automobile out of a ditch*

Currently on display

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In 1909, Alice Huyler Ramsey, of Hackensack, New Jersey, became the first woman to drive across the United States. Challenged by a sales manager for Maxwell-Briscoe Company, she drove one of the company's touring cars from New York to San Francisco. The company sponsored and publicised the trip to persuade the American public that cars were here to stay. American roads were still often unimproved in 1909, and Ramsey and her three female passengers packed a block and tackle and used it often in the muddy Midwest.
Physical Description

photograph.

Details

Date Made: 1909

History

In the first decades of its existence, the automobile was expensive, fragile, and subject to regular mechanical and equipment failures. A number of well publicized early cross country trips, as well as endurance and speed tests, helped make the American public believe in the efficacy and usefulness of this new mode of transportation.

Document 6

Alice Ramsey and her companions

Currently on display
Not a part of the official Smithsonian Collection

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**Document 7**

"Elizabeth Cady Stanton," An Excerpt from the Declaration of Sentiments

"Elizabeth Cady Stanton" An Excerpt from the Declaration of Sentiments, from the recording entitled "...But the Women Rose…: Voices of Women in American History," Folkways SFW CD CD F-5538, provided courtesy of Smithsonian Folkways Recordings. © 1972. Used by permission.

Partial Transcript:
"He has never permitted her to exercise her inalienable right to the elective franchise. He has compelled her to submit to law in the formation of which she had no voice. He has withheld from her rights which are given to the most ignorant and degraded men, both natives and foreigners. Having deprived her of this first right as a citizen, the elective franchise, thereby leaving her without representation in the halls of legislation, he has oppressed her on all sides."

The following sources are from http://memory.loc.gov/learn/community/cc_herstory_kit.php

**Document 8**

*Daughters of Freedom / by Edwin Christie.*

Christie, Edwin.

**CREATED/PUBLISHED**
Boston: Ditson & Co., Oliver, 1871.

**NOTES**
Words by George Cooper.
To Mrs. Mary A. Livermore

DAUGHTERS FOR FREEDOM!
THE BALLOT BE YOURS

Solo Quartet

POETRY BY GEORGE COOPER
MUSIC BY EDWIN CHRISTIE

BOSTON
OLIVER DITSON & CO. 271 WASHINGTON ST.
N.YORK, E. H. DITSON & CO.

Chicago
Lynn & Hwy
J. Church & Co.
J. C. Phyfe & Co.

BOSTON
Huff

New York

Copyright, 1869, by Oliver Ditson & Co.
DAUGHTERS OF FREEDOM.

Written by GEORGE COOPER. Composed by EDWIN CHRISTIE.

Air:
1. Daughters of freedom, rise in your might!

Alto:
2. Daughters of freedom, the truth marches on.

Tenor:
3. Daughters of freedom, the "Ballot" be yours.

Bass:

Piano:

March to the watchwords Justice and Right!

Yield not the battle till ye have won!

Weild it with wisdom, your hopes it secures.

Piano.
Why will ye almen-bear wake, O wake! Look on your
Heed not the "scorner," day by day. Clouds of op-
Rights that are equal, this ye claim, Bright be your
Legions light doth break! Sunder the fetters
Pression roll away! Sunder the fetters
Guardon, fair your fame! Sunder the fetters
Sojourner Truth

CREATED/PUBLISHED
n. d.

NOTES
Quotation: "If de fust woman God ever made was strong enough to turn de world upside down all alone, dese women all togedder ought to be able to turn it back and get it right side up agin."
If de fust woman God ever made was strong enough to turn de world upside down all alone, dese women all togedder ought to be able to turn it back and get it right side up agin.—Sojourner Truth.
ITEM TITLE
Votes for Women Broadside. Women's Political Union

CREATED/PUBLISHED
New York City, New York: January 28, 1911

NOTES
Ex-convicts given power to vote. "Stand Back Ladies" graphic shows policeman holding back Woman with baby and Woman in academic robes to allow ex-convicts in stripped uniforms vote. Convicts out-rank women in New York. Women, as well as ex-convicts, should be allowed to vote.
Verso: lists crimes and punishment of 81 convicts pardoned by Gov. White; describes suffrage bills introduced to New York Senate by Newcomb and Stillwell; Sylvia Pankhurst to speak in Albany

SUBJECTS
Baxter, Martin
ex-convicts
New York Senate
New York State Constitution-suffrage resolution
Pankhurst, Sylvia
suffrage arguments
suffrage cartoon
White, Horace
Women's Political Union
United States--New York--New York City

MEDIUM
broadside;32.7 x 21.1 cm.
VOTES FOR WOMEN

Published by the WOMEN'S POLITICAL UNION
WHEN EVENTS DEMAND

Number 2
Price, 2 Cents

January 28, 1911

“STAND BACK, LADIES!”

CONVICTS OUT-RANK WOMEN.

There has been a general belief, which we
suffragists have helped to spread, that
men are classed politically with idlers and
criminals. That is an error. The man who
has lost his right to vote through being con-
victed of a crime, as, when freed from prison,
become the object of exclusive clamor and
be restored to full citizen rights.

By a stroke of the pen Gov. White gave to
eighty-one ex-convicts the power to vote.

Women are out-classed by criminals in the
State of New York.

When our investigators visited the office of
the Secretary of State to look up the crimes
and sentences of these newly made rulers of
women, every official who helped in the search
expressed the deepest sympathy with the ex-
convicts. They argued that these unfortunates
ought to get back their full rights of citizen-
ship, for they “seemed the protection of the
ballot.” The tender-hearted men on Capitol Hill
were amazed that we thought so too, for they
had supposed our desire for information was
promoted by a spirit of vindictiveness.

Not at all. We think a man who has faced
his punishment, and has succeeded in getting
on his feet again after his fall, and is trying
to be a decent member of society, should not
have to fight the battle of life with the stigma
of disfranchisement upon him.

But we hold with a conviction deep as life
itself that women, law-abiding women, should
also be freed from the stigma of political out-
law.

With confidence we challenge every voter
in the State of New York to give one sound
reason why the four men who committed rape
on women should be made the political rulers
of the victims of their lust.
Equality League of Self-Supporting Women to Governor of New York

New York: June 8, 1907

Equality League of Self-Supporting Women request state investigation of working conditions and pay of women.

SUBJECTS
- Allen, Winnefred J.
- Blatch, Harriot Stanton (1856-1940)
- Daniel, Dr. Annie S.
- equal pay
- Equality League of Self-Supporting Women (New York)
- Hughes, Charles E.
- Kelley, Florence (1859-1932)
- Schneidermann, Miss Rose
- Spencer, Rev. Anna Garlin (1851-1931)
- Wald, Lillian
- Whitney, Rosalie Loew
- working class women
- working conditions
- United States--New York

MEDIUM
- typescript letter
To his Excellency the Governor of the State of New York.

Dear Sir:

We address you in the name of ten thousand self-supporting women in the City of New York. As industrial workers, as doctors, as lawyers, as followers of other professions and business careers, members of our league constantly report discriminations against them in the world of work.

In your message on the White Bill, we note that you fully appreciate the importance of the question of equal pay for equal work. With keen insight you insist that it is not a mere local matter, but a principle of grave importance to the State as a whole. The economic question as to the remuneration of women workers, is, indeed one of profound social importance, but one about which adequate information is entirely lacking.

On one side the conviction is held that women perform the same work as men, and should receive equal pay; on the other, that either the work of women is not of just the same grade as that of men, or, if it is, for certain social reasons, it must not receive the same remuneration. Here are important differences of opinion, which, as you point out in your message, demand thorough investigation.

For weal or woe we women are in the world of paid work. In the city of New York alone, we number nearly four hundred thousand. The discriminations against us, we are convinced, are in a large measure due to the attitude of government towards us. The State sets an example of gross inequality and the employer and community at large follow that example.

We therefore, urge upon your consideration the need for a full governmental inquiry into the work and pay of women in the State of New York. And we would appreciate the courtesy if you would appoint a time when a delegation of self-supporting women might lay before you their reasons for asking such an investigation.

Signed on behalf of the Equality League of Self-Supporting Women by

(Signed) Harriot Stanton Blatch

Rose Schneiderman

Anna Garlin Spencer

Winifred J. Allen

Annie S. Bannan, M.D.

Florence Kelley

Lillian Wald

Rosalie Loew Whitney

New York June 9, 1907.
NOTES
Summarizes progress of woman suffrage throughout world, International Woman Suffrage Alliance to meet in Amsterdam, will celebration full suffrage in Finland and Norway. Woman-Suffrage Map of World show the forms of Enfranchisement granted in various countries; photomechanical print of suffragist leaders who "besieged" Congress in March 1908

SUBJECTS
Amsterdam, Holland
Catt, Carrie Chapman (1859-1947)
Finland-suffrage
hats
International Woman Suffrage Alliance
Knobe, Bertha Damaris
map-woman suffrage
Norway-suffrage
photomechanical print
United States Senate-suffrage hearing
Australia
Canada
England
Finland
Holland--Amsterdam
Iceland
Ireland
New Zealand
Norway
Scotland
Sweden
United States
Wales

MEDIUM
clipping
Votes for Women: An Object-Lesson
By BERTHA DAMARIS KNOBE

THAT masculine anti-suffragist of Massachusetts who gloomed, “When a man comes home tired at night he does not want to sit an evening in the front room or a member of the school board,” will soon have to move to another planet. That is, if he aspires to be really happy. For the solemn fact is that the suffragists are appropriating as much of this earth, politically speaking, that like Alexander of old, they will shortly have to lament because there are no more worlds to conquer.

This amazing fact is to be demonstrated with mathematical precision at an international object-lesson in woman’s suffrage, scheduled for the 15th of June at: Amsterdam, Holland. This is the seven days’ meeting of the International Woman’s Suffrage Alliance, under its American president, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, of New York. Fair representatives from twenty-two countries—think of it!—will come to compare notes, and twelve of them—think again!—will proudly report that they possess full suffrage, every suffrage except Parliamentary, or municipal suffrage. The aspiring others will rife ofer minor scraps of the ballot or a fine fight for it—which means that, suddenly and spectaculorly, the once despised subject of female enfranchisement is being discussed in absolutely every civilized region of the globe, and yet the absolute anti-suffragist persists that woman’s suffrage isn’t getting ground.

This gathering in Amsterdam will be a glorification because, for sooth, such strides have been made since the Strassean Sisterhood met at Copenhagen, Denmark, two years ago. Two northern nations—Finland and Norway—have in this time crowned their women with complete citizenship. Undoubtedly interest will centre in the campaign tales told by the Finnish women, who, the first election after their enfranchisement in 1906, challenged the ap- proval of the conventional world, by sending nineteen women to Parliament. One instinctively wonders what the Massachusetts man thought when Mrs. Hedwig Gehard was chosen to sit beside her illustrious husband. This interest will be shared by the Nor- wegian women, whose chivalrous countrymen, not to be outdone by their national neighbor, speedily restored, in 1907, full suffrage with eligibility to Parliament, though as yet no candidate has been entered in the parliamentary race. These triumphs are the more striking when one recalls that fifteen years have elapsed

since the first of the four full-suffrage countries—New Zealand—bestowed the ballot on the sex in 1893; but the New Zealand men, not so favorably disposed as their Finish and Norwegian brothers, still wistfully hold the string to the situation by reserving seats in Parliament solely for their own sex. Thirteen years have passed, moreover, since Australia began in its various states to bestow political freedom upon its women, even to Parliamentary eligibility, and therein America, in her splendid vote, none has succeeded in winning the privilege of writing “M. P.” after her name,

Sue Napoleon of man’s suffrage, the English “suffragettes,” which swooped the world into “taking notice”—their latest device is to damage a life with the words “Votes for Women,” directly over the House of Parliament which has ousted them so often are chronicled in the newspapers; and the “apple-coring” of their New York contingent surprisingly not in Wall Street but the other day is familiar history. But the average American does not know that Spanish women, enacting their Baby sisters, recently planned a monster parade down the stately streets of Edinburgh—three thousand strong, headed by the mounted police.
Alice Paul describes her disruption of Lord Mayor's banquet and subsequent force feeding after hunger strike in Holloway jail. She refused to wear prison clothes or to work, so spent the month in bed.

SUBJECTS
Brown, Amelia
Burns, Lucy
Churchill, Winston
England-suffragists
force feeding
Holloway Jail, London
hunger strike
Paul, Alice (1885-1977)
suffrage strategies
England--London

MEDIUM
clipping
Being Fed Through Nostrils Is Described by Alice Paul, Young American Suffragette

Inventor of Hunger Strike Tells How British Prison Physicians Keep Life in Women Who Won’t Eat or Wear Clothes.

London, Dec. 9.—Miss Alice Paul, of Philadelphia, the suffragette who was arrested November 9th and sentenced to a month’s hard labor for her share in the suffragette demonstration at the Lord Mayor’s banquet at the Guildhall, was released from Holloway jail this morning on the completion of her thirty days. She left the prison in a car, accompanied by two wardresses, and went to the home of friends. A doctor was immediately called to attend her there, owing to her weakened condition.

Miss Paul, who was the inventor of the suffragettes’ “hunger strike” and practised it during her latest term in jail, was cheerful, and said she did not regret her conduct, and was prepared to repeat it again if necessary. She said she was unable to undergo the ordeal of an interview, but later she sent your correspondent a statement by a friend. On previous convictions, Miss Paul was able to gain her freedom by refusing to eat, but her tactics were futile this time.

Miss Paul said she was the granddaughter of a New Jersey judge, and a master of arts of the University of Pennsylvania. She had done a great deal of settlement work during the last four years, and came to London in September, 1908, to study economics. After saying that she was first struck by the contrast between the academic interest in women suffrage in America and the lively character of the movement here, Miss Paul told this story of her prison life.

“I practised a hunger strike until November 11th. After that date they fed me twice a day by force, except on one day when I was too ill to be touched. I have no complaints against the Holloway officials. I spent the whole time in bed, because I refused to wear prison clothes.

Each day, I was wrapped in blankets and taken to another cell to be fed, the food being injected through my nostrils. “During this operation the largest wardress in Holloway sat astride my knees, holding my shoulders down to keep me from bending forward. Two other wardresses sat on either side and held my arms. Then a towel was placed around my throat, and one doctor from behind forced my head back, while another doctor put a tube in my nostril. When it reached my throat my head was pushed forward.

“Twice the tube came through my mouth and I got it between my teeth. My mouth was then pried open with an instrument. Sometimes they tied me to a chair with sheets. Once I managed to get my hands loose and snatched the tube, tearing it with my teeth. I also broke a jug, but I didn’t give in.”

Miss Paul lives alone in London. Her friend told me with great gusto how Miss Paul had eluded the vigilance of the police at the Lord Mayor’s banquet. It seems she and Miss Amelia Brown, her partner in the escapade, dressed as charwomen, went to the Guildhall at 9 o’clock in the morning. Every time they met anyone they asked the way to the kitchen. They had many hairbreadth escapes, and once seeing a policeman close at hand, they knelt down to escape notice. In the dark the policeman actually put his hand over them. Finally they succeeded in getting to the gallery overlooking the banqueting hall, where they shrieked and threw stones through a stained glass window.

Miss Lucy Burns, the other American suffragette, is following W. H. Spender Churchill around the country, making it as warm as possible for the President of the Board of Trade.
ITEM TITLE
Elizabeth Smith Miller Study Class Outline of Work for 1909
CREATED/PUBLISHED
1909
NOTES
Lists Elizabeth Smith Miller Study Club officers and 1909 meeting dates and subjects; Includes
comments and quotes related to three planned areas of study: centennial celebrations of great
men, American women, and national problems and ideals
SUBJECTS
Elizabeth Smith Miller Study Club
United States--New York--Ontario--Geneva
MEDIUM
leaflet; 4 p., 20 x 15.1 cm.
The Geneva Political Equality Club

By request presents this

Outline of Work for 1909

Suggested by Mrs. Wm. Smith O'Brien for

The Elizabeth Smith Miller Study Class

President, Miss Susanna Moore

Vice-President, Mr. Robert Patterson

Secretary, Miss Jessie Sperry

Program Committee
Mrs. Wm. Smith O'Brien, Chairman
Mrs. Wm. Sattler
Mrs. Charles Burrall
Mrs. A. T. Stark
Mrs. Robert Henson
Mrs. R. H. Robinson

Music Committee
Mrs. O. J. C. Rose, Chairman
Mrs. J. A. Spengler
Miss Paula Young
Miss Elizabeth Giddings
Miss Laura Cassler

Meetings will be held on the first and third Mondays in each month from January to June as follows:

January 1st. Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Stark, 43 Hamilton St.
January 15th. Dr. and Mrs. Young, 97 Genesee St.
February 1st. Mrs. Joel Page, 8 Park Place
February 15th. Mrs. A. E. Heming, 2 Park Place
March 1st. Mrs. Robert Henson, 165 Pulteney St.
March 15th. Mrs. Nelson Smith, 94 North St.
April 5th. Mrs. George Schell, 74 Main St.
April 19th. Mr. and Mrs. J. E. D. Butt, 746 Main St.
May 3rd. Mr. and Mrs. George Fairfax, 277 Lewis St.
May 17th. Mr. and Mrs. W. Smith O'Brien, 25 Genesee St.

The subjects already arranged are: Jan. 1st—Alfred Tennyson, Jane Addams; Jan. 18th—Darwin, Martha Berry; Feb. 1st—Felix Mendelssohn; Feb. 15th—Abraham Lincoln, Susan B. Anthony.

Dr. W. W. Skinner, Prof. Williams, Mrs. P. N. Nicholas, Mr. Wm. Smith O'Brien, Prof. Robert Beach, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Graves, Prof. Mc Daniels, Dr. Hubbs and others will assist the members of the club.
National Anti-Suffrage Association.

Harris & Ewing.

CREATED/PUBLISHED
[1911(?)]

SUMMARY
Men looking in the window of the National Anti-Suffrage Association headquarters.

NOTES
No. 2189.

SUBJECTS
Women's suffrage--1910-1920.
Photographic prints--1910-1920.

MEDIUM
1 photographic print
Document 16

[Suffrage parade, New York City, May 6, 1912].

CREATED/PUBLISHED
1912 May 6.

NOTES
Blind stamp: Copyright by American Press Association.

SUBJECTS
Suffragists--1910-1920.
Photographic prints--1910-1920.

CREATED/PUBLISHED
1913.

SUMMARY
Cover of program for women's suffrage procession, showing woman, in elaborate attire, with cape, blowing long horn, from which is draped a "votes for women" banner, on decorated horse, with U.S. Capitol in background.

SUBJECTS
Women's suffrage--United States--1910-1920.

RELATED NAMES
League of Women Voters (U.S.) Records.

MEDIUM
1 photomechanical print : color.

Document 18

Item Title
[Map of] Route of Envoys Sent from East by the Congressional Union for Woman's Suffrage, to Appeal the Voting Women of the West [with inset portrait of Alice Paul]

Created/Published
[1916 Apr.-May]

Notes
Summary: Map of the United States showing tour of Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage. Image of Alice Paul in lower left-hand corner. Captioned "Call to Women Voters to Assemble in Chicago June 5, 6, 7 to Launch A National Woman's Party."

Title transcribed from item, with additional information derived by Library of Congress staff. The same version of the map without Alice Paul's face was published in The Suffragist, 5, no. 54 (Jan. 10, 1917): 5.

Subjects
United States
National Woman's Party
Suffragists--United States--1910-1920
Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage (U.S.)
Paul, Alice, 1885-1977
Women--Suffrage--United States
Photographs
  Object Type
still image
  Medium
1 photograph: print; 5.5 x 6.5 in.
Item Title
[Suffragists Protest Woodrow Wilson's Opposition to Woman Suffrage, October 1916]

Created/Published
1916 [Oct. 20]

Notes
Summary: Photograph of women suffrage activists wearing suffrage sashes demonstrating with signs at city street corner. Signs read "President Wilson How Long Do You Advise Us to Wait?", "Vote Against Wilson He Opposes National Suffrage", "Wilson is Against Women," and "Why Does Wilson Seek Votes From Women When He Opposes Votes For Women." Police on horseback and on foot far right.

Title transcribed from item with editorial addition supplied by Library of Congress staff.


Subjects
United States--Illinois--Chicago
National Woman's Party
Suffragists--United States--1910-1920
Women--Suffrage--Illinois
Photographs

Object Type
still image

Medium
1 photograph: print; 8.5 x 11.5 in.
Item Title
Part of the Vast Billboard Campaign of the Woman's Party. Putting up billboard in Denver-- 1916.

Created/Published
1916

Notes
Summary: Photograph of unidentified woman putting up billboard with bucket and broom. Billboard reads: "Women of Colorado, you have the vote. Get it for women of the nation by voting against Woodrow Wilson and the Democratic Candidate for Congress. Their party opposes national woman suffrage. The National Woman's Party." Billboard features image of young woman and a hat with "The Woman's Party" feather and a "50-50" price tag, above which is the motto "Our Hat's in the Ring."
Title transcribed from item.

Subjects
United States--Colorado--Denver
National Woman's Party
Suffragists--United States--1910-1920
Women--Suffrage--Colorado
Photographs

Object Type
still image

Medium
WOMEN OF COLORADO
YOU HAVE THE VOTE
GET IT FOR WOMEN OF THE NATION
BY VOTING AGAINST

WOODROW WILSON
DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS

"OUR HAT'S IN THE RING"
THEIR PARTY OPPOSES NATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE

THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY
## Document Analysis Worksheet

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|    | **B. Why do you think this document was written? “Picture taken? Illustration made?”** |
|    | ________________________________________________________________ |
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|    | **C. What evidence in the document helps you know why it was written? Quote from the document.** |
|    | ________________________________________________________________ |
|    | ________________________________________________________________ |

|    | **D. List two things the document tells you about life in the United States at the time it was written:** |
|    | ________________________________________________________________ |
|    | ________________________________________________________________ |
E. Write a question to the author that is left unanswered by the document:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Designed and developed by the Education Staff, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408.

**Amendments made to worksheet by Alisa Blaauw**