

# PUSD Women's History Month 2023

## **Middle School prompt:**

Why should women have full bodily autonomy?

*(Why is it important that all women have the ability to make their own decisions about their own bodies?)*

## **High School prompt:**

What is the role of bodily autonomy within a "just" society?

*(How is women's full bodily autonomy essential to social justice?)*












- Life Before women's liberation movement (WLM) Page 2
- Brief Video Interviews - page 3
- Our Bodies - pages 4,5
- Dorothy Pittman Hughes and Gloria Steinem and Ms. - page 6
- The two waves of the Women's Movement - page 7
- Women in politics who came through WLM - page 8
- Shirley Chisholm - page 9
- Betty Friedan and Pauli Murray - page 10
- The Miss America Pageant Protest - page 11
- Combahee River Collective - page 12
- Statue of Liberty takeover- page 13
- Title IX - page 14
- Artists and Museums - page 15
- Chicago Women's Graphic Collective - page 16

- Strike for Equality - page 17
- ERA - page 18
- Politics - page 19
- Heads of State Globally - page 20
- High School Letter to Editor - page 21
- Notable Women in WLM - page 22
- Margaret Sloan-Hunter - page 23
- Some Notable California Women - page 24
- WLM Phrases - Page 25
- Women In Leadership - page 26
- 1980s - page 27
- Bibliography - page 28

# Life before the Women's Liberation Movement

Life was different before the women's movement (women's liberation movement 1963 - 1983 approximately)

(<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/10/28/fact-check-9-things-women-couldnt-do-1971-mostly-right/3677101001/>)

-  Health care was not considered something you needed to know to much about, no books on your pregnancy available
-  Women couldn't get birth control without husband or parent permission
-  Women could not get credit cards in their own names and hard to get credit cards in general as a single woman
-  You could be refused opportunity to apply for a job if you were female and all help wanted ads in newspapers were divided up into Female Help Wanted and Male Help Wanted
-  You could be fired for being pregnant prior to 1978 (this was particularly common for teachers)
-  Women could not get home mortgages
-  Could not serve on a jury
-  Restaurants could refuse service to women if they wanted an all male establishment
-  Apartments (hard to get as a single woman, but possible)
-  You couldn't get a drivers license in your own name if you were married - sexist social mores were strong. Girls sports in schools was limited or non-existent (in basketball girls traditionally played 'half-court')
-  Women could be denied college admittance because they were female (no matter how good your grades were)



# Brief interviews with feminists from WLM

*Byllye Avery*  
*Consciousness Raising*



*Vivian Rothstein*  
*Visit to*  
*North Vietnam*  
*to meet with*  
*women*



*Aileen Hernandez and Sonia Pressman Fuentes*  
*NOW*



*Humor*  
*WITCH*  
*Miss America Protest*



# Our Bodies

## Byllye Avery is one of our keynotes for the WHM 2023!

"If you were pregnant, there was *no* information." Avery on life before the women's liberation movement.

Byllye's commitment to women's health began in the mid 1970s, when along with several other feminists co-founded both the Gainesville Women's Health Center and Birthplace, midwifery service birthing center, in Gainesville, Florida, known today as the Birth Center. In 1983, she founded The National Black Women's Health Project committed to defining, promoting and maintaining the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of Black women and their families. The Avery Institute for Social Change, organized in 2002, has focused its work on health care reform.

<http://prep.bwhi.org/staff-and-board-members/board-member/byllye-nbsp-y.-nbsp-avery-nbsp/>

Carol Downer began her activist career in the movement for [civil rights](#) and local politics in California during the 1960s. She became active in the [women's liberation movement](#) in 1969, and she worked to try to make abortion available in [Los Angeles, California](#) under the liberalized [abortion law](#).

Interviewed by Judy Waxman, October 2021

<https://www.feministcurrent.com/2020/01/24/podcast-carol-downer-revolutionized-the-womens-health-movement-and-refuses-to-quit-decades-later/>

Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339



### BYLLYE AVERY

Byllye Avery is the founder of the Black Women's Health Imperative, the first nonprofit organization created to help protect and advance the health and wellness of Black women and girls.

Byllye also co-founded the first abortion and gynecological care clinic (Gainesville Women's Health Center) in Gainesville, Florida in 1974. Additionally, in 1978, Avery helped to found Birthplace, an alternative birthing center in Gainesville.

Today, Byllye's impact continues to grow, helping to ensure the health and equity of our nation's Black women and girls.





# Our Bodies Our Selves

"In May of 1969, as the women's movement was gaining momentum, a group of women in Boston met during a ["female liberation conference" at Emmanuel College](#). In a workshop titled "Women and Their Bodies," they shared their experiences with doctors and their frustration at how little they knew about how their bodies worked.

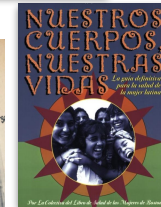
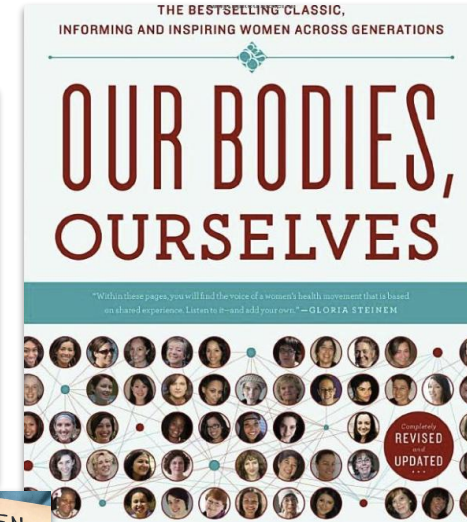
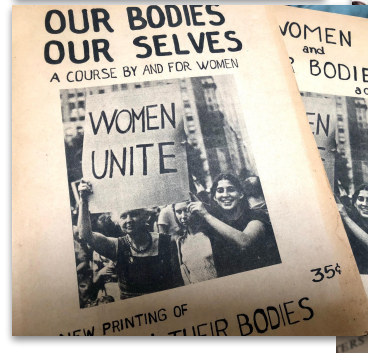
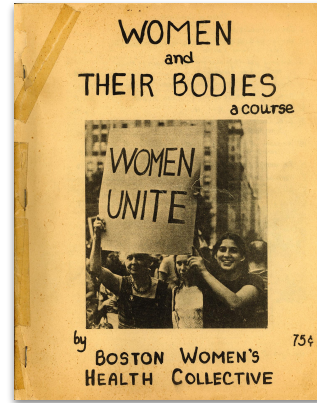
The discussions were so provocative and fulfilling that they formed the Doctor's Group, the forerunner to the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, to find out more about their bodies, their lives, their sexuality and relationships, and to talk with each other about what they learned. They decided to put their knowledge into an accessible format that could be shared and would serve as a model for women to learn about themselves, communicate their findings with doctors, and challenge the medical establishment to change and improve the care that women receive.

In 1970, they worked with the [New England Free Press](#) to publish a 193-page course book on stapled newsprint titled ["Women and Their Bodies."](#)

Cover of the first edition of "Our Bodies, Ourselves" (1970)

The book was revolutionary for its frank talk about sexuality and abortion, which was then illegal. The cost: 75 cents."

<https://www.ourbodiesourselves.org/about-us/our-history/>



# Dorothy Pitman Hughes and Gloria Steinem

"Laura L. Lovett, whose biography of Hughes, *"With Her Fist Raised,"* came out last year, said in Ms. Magazine (of which Pitman was a co-founder along with Steinem) that Hughes "defined herself as a feminist, but rooted her feminism in her experience and in more fundamental needs for safety, food, shelter and child care."

<https://msmagazine.com/2021/09/09/dorothy-pitman-hughes-feminist-gloria-steinem-who-founded-ms-magazine/>



Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339

# The Women's Movement in the US is comprised of two waves. Women changed our nation

## SUFFRAGE

Three generation  
fight for right to  
vote

Ida B. Wells  
marched and  
wrote

Alice Paul  
wrote ERA in  
1923

**Francis Perkins** (first female cabinet member)  
spearheaded the creation of Social Security, child labor  
laws and the 8 hour workday. She witnessed the  
Triangle Shirtwaist factory fire.  
<http://rooseveltinstitute.org/frances-perkins-force-behind-social-security/>



1848

1920

1935

1942-1945

1961

1980s

## WOMEN'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT

Right to get a  
mortgage, credit card  
or even the right to  
live alone without  
ridicule

Ideas of women's body image  
become political issues

Women's  
health care

Sexual  
harrassment  
was being  
actively  
confronted

ERA fight  
continued through  
1980s and is still  
being fought for  
today

Female jurors,  
come out of WLM

Female college  
applicants could no  
longer be rejected for  
being female

Violence against  
women became a  
prominent issue

Title IX



World War II

Social movements are never started by leaders. They are started by *the people*. Over time they sift into every strata of society. Leaders emerge from movements. The WLM strove to be leaderless as 'every woman had a right to speak and be heard.'



## Some women in politics who came through the US Women's Liberation Movement

Supreme Court Justice Ginsberg

Supreme Court Justice Sotomayor

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton

Speaker Nancy Pelosi

Senator Dianne Feinstein

Congressmember Shirley Chisholm

Congressmember Judy Chu

Congressmember Holmes-Norton

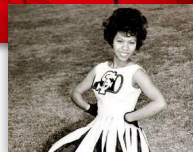
Congressmember Barbara Jordan

Congressmember Barbara Lee

Congressmember Jackie Speier

Congressmember Bella Abzug

'My story is the story of a life shaped by and devoted to the movement for women's liberation' - Hillary Rodham Clinton



[Watch 3 minute trailer for Feminist: Stories](#)  
From Women's Liberation

# Shirley Chisholm

How would the  
USA be different  
if we had  
President  
Chisholm?

First African American woman elected to congress. She ran for president in 1972.  
The National Organization For Women supported her and held press conferences for her.

"I am not the candidate of black America, although I am black and proud," said Chisholm in a speech announcing her candidacy on Jan. 25 at the Concord Baptist Church in Brooklyn, N.Y. "I am not the candidate of the women's movement of this country, although I am a woman, and I am equally proud of that." America's first African-American woman presidential candidate declared, "I am the candidate of the people of America." <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/what-former-presidential-candidate-shirley-chisholm-said-about-facing-gender-discrimination>



Gloria Steinem

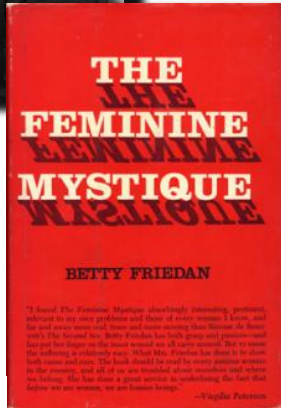
Congresswoman Bella Abzug

Betty Friedan  
Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/when-shirley-chisholm-ran-for-president-few-would-say-im-with-her-180958699/>

Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339

# Betty Friedan



Both Friedan and Murray were founders of the National Organization for Women

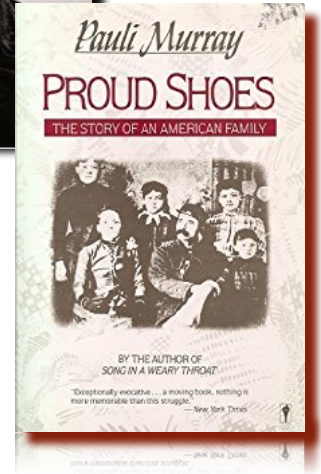
**Betty Friedan** reporter and author of “The Feminine Mystique.” The book started a movement that touched a chord. She focused on Smith College graduates. The themes in the book were the early pillars of the women’s liberation movement.

[https://www2.ljworld.com/news/2006/feb/05/betty\\_friedan\\_modernday\\_feminist\\_pioneer\\_dies/](https://www2.ljworld.com/news/2006/feb/05/betty_friedan_modernday_feminist_pioneer_dies/)

**Pauli Murray** - Civil rights attorney, poet, author, feminist and first woman to be ordained an episcopal priest. She authored a memo after President Kennedy created the Status of Women Commission, “A Proposal to Reexamine the Applicability of the Fourteenth Amendment to State Laws and Practices Which Discriminate on the Basis of Sex Per Se”

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/04/17/the-many-lives-of-pauli-murray>

# Pauli Murray





# The Miss America Pageant Protest

Feminist protested the Miss America Pageant in 1968 at the Atlantic City Boardwalk. The pageant was live and the feminists had sneaked into the pageant (dressed as housewives!) and unfurled a banner for the live TV cameras! The banner read **WOMEN'S LIBERATION** and threw the pageant into a tizzy and they cut to commercial. The women sprayed hairspray and media men who covered it said there was a "foul smelling spray."

It was an action to protest ridiculous standards of beauty for women and to highlight the objectification of women. They protested that there had never been a black Miss America. Although many people think they burned bras, they did not. They intended to burn bras, but upon getting to the Atlantic City Boardwalk they were told they couldn't burn anything on the boardwalk so they had a Freedom Trash Can.

Flo Kennedy: Kennedy played a significant role in formulating the [Miss America protest](https://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/wlmpc/) of 1968.<sup>[1]</sup> The Miss America protest was used as a tool to demonstrate the "exploitation of women".<sup>[2]</sup>

<https://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/wlmpc/>

<http://time.com/2853184/feminism-has-a-bra-burning-myth-problem/>

<http://time.com/5071384/1968-historic-lessons-for-2018/>

Are we still  
fighting  
standards of  
beauty?



Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339

# Combahee River Collective



“...the Combahee Statement was also written to describe how race, gender, and sexual orientation were woven together in the lives of queer Black women. In describing the distinct experiences of Black women who were lesbians, they pioneered what would eventually become known as “intersectionality”—the idea that multiple identities can be constantly and simultaneously present within one person’s body.”

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/our-columnists/until-black-women-are-free-none-of-us-will-be-free>



<https://somethingcurated.com/2021/05/17/the-70s-collective-that-laid-the-foundations-for-intersectional-feminism/>

“Frazier described many of the collective members as refugees from other movements. Within the civil rights movement, there was homophobia and misogyny; within the feminist movement, racism and a lack of initiative to understand womanhood through the lens of race. “I want to situate black lesbian and gay life in its appropriate context of Black social, political and cultural experience,” wrote Barbara Smith in an interview with “Sojourner: The Women’s Forum.”

<https://www.wbur.org/news/2019/06/10/boston-combahee-river-collective-intersectional-black-feminism>



# The Takeover of the Statue of Liberty

In 1970 Betty Friedan decided to organize a national strike of women in order to get attention on the women's liberation movement. She wanted 50,000 women striking in Manhattan and the feminists of NOW had to figure out how to get the word out. Lesbian feminist and member of NOW Ivy Bottini said they should take over the Statue of Liberty. (Bottini designed the NOW graphic which is still in use today)

Women made a banner that was forty feet long and they sneaked into the statue of liberty while women protested on the ground with the press covering the action. (They had to outrun the security guard!) The women inside the statue stepped out onto the exterior ledge and unfurled a banner that read Women of The World Unite! The press took pictures and the photo of the banner went global!!

The press was there and it made headlines. Statue of Liberty protest clip Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YzQD8Sx8JDk>



# Title IX

What would your life be  
like without  
Title IX?

Bernice Sandler applied for a job in her university and didn't get it. She was told she was "too strong for a woman." She went home and she looked at the Title VII statute in the Civil Rights Act and saw that it was illegal to discriminate on the basis of sex in a university of the school received federal funds. That is the start of Title IX that was passed in 1972. It also changed women's sports forever.

<http://beta.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-ol-patt-morrison-asks-bernice-sandler-title-ix-sex-discrimination-20170816-htm1story.html>

Bernice Sandler is in the National Women's Hall of Fame

<https://www.womenofthehall.org/women-of-the-hall/voices-great-women/bernice-resnick-sandler/>

<https://www.aauw.org/2010/07/01/godmother-of-title-ix/>

Women Sports Foundation <https://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/>





# Artists and Museums

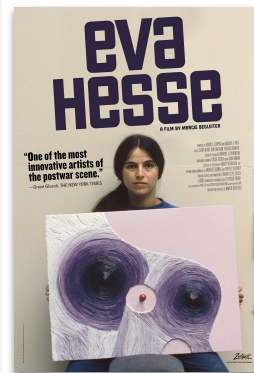
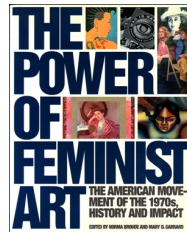
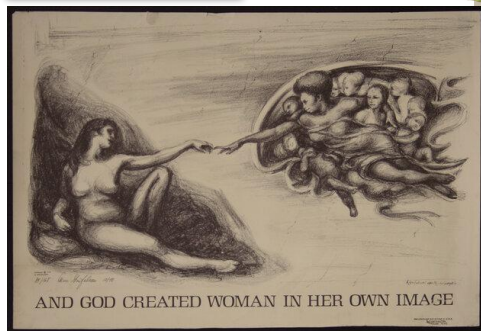
Female artists were demanding the same coverage as their male counterparts. (See Judy Chicago, Eva Hesse, Faith Ringold, Kate Millet) A radical group called Guerilla Girls protested museums over lack of female artists. In Los Angeles The Women's Building was an arts non-profit conservancy.



## THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A WOMAN ARTIST:

Working without the pressure of success  
 Not having to be in shows with men  
 Having an escape from the art world in your 4 free-lance jobs  
 Knowing your career might pick up after you're eighty  
 Being reassured that whatever kind of art you make it will be labeled feminine  
 Not being stuck in a tenured teaching position  
 Seeing your ideas live on in the work of others  
 Having the opportunity to choose between career and motherhood  
 Not having to choke on those big cigars or paint in Italian suits  
 Having more time to work when your mate dumps you for someone younger  
 Being included in revised versions of art history  
 Not having to undergo the embarrassment of being called a genius  
 Getting your picture in the art magazines wearing a gorilla suit

A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE FROM **GUERRILLA GIRLS** CONSCIENCE OF THE ART WORLD

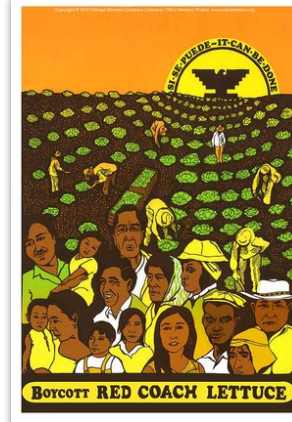
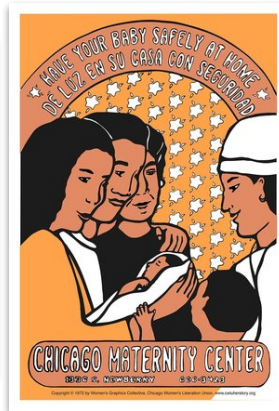
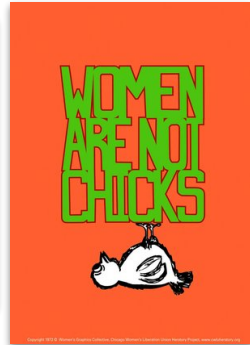


Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339

# Chicago Women's Graphic Collective

<https://www.cwluherstory.org/store?category=large+posters>

The CWLU (1969 to 1976) was the most significant of the socialist feminist women's unions established during the "second wave" feminist movement. CWLU was formed in 1969 and played a leading role in the women's liberation movement in Chicago during the 1970s. CWLU recognized that the liberation of women was not possible unless it also fought against racism and capitalism, and for gay and lesbian liberation.





# August 26, 1970 Strike For Equality

The Strike was a huge success and it gave muscle to the women's liberation movement that helped them continue to fight into the 1970s and tackle women's health care and the ERA. The tagline for the strike was "Don't Iron While The Strike Is Hot."

<http://behindthescenes.nyhistory.org/march-for-equality-in-nyc/>

Congresswoman Bella Abzug wrote a proclamation designating August 26 Women's Equality Day. It passed in 1973.

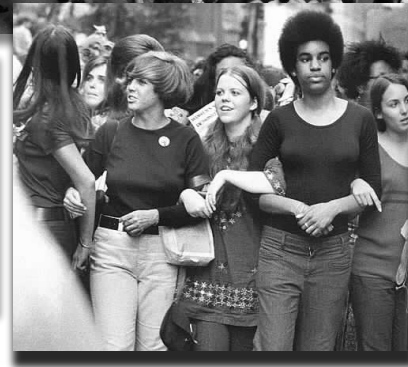
One year to the day after the [Women's Strike for Equality March](#), Congress passed a resolution designating Aug. 26 as [Women's Equality Day](#), and 45 years later, the day continues to be a moment to reckon with how far women's rights have come, and how far they have yet to go.

Abzug's push for Women's Equality Day was, in fact, far more symbolic than many of the more concrete policies she made a reality in her six years in Congress, not to mention in the two decades prior to her election, which she spent as a lawyer fighting for human rights and civil rights. While in Congress, she co-founded the National Women's Political Caucus along with Betty Friedan, Gloria Steinem and [Shirley Chisholm](#), working to secure more elected positions for women in politics. She later introduced the first federal gay-rights bill, along with future New York City mayor Ed Koch. Failed bids for Senate and New York City mayor hardly slowed her roll, and she would continue fighting for equal rights until her death in 1998. <https://time.com/4459168/womens-equality-day-bella-abzug/>

Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339



Should Women's Equality Day be a Federal Holiday? :-)



# ERA Activism 1970 - through today

Aileen Hernandez: “One of her first actions as president was testifying in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the United States Senate in May of 1970. “Gentlemen, women are enraged,” Hernandez told the Senators, [as reported in the New York Times](#). “We are dedicated, and we mean to become first-class citizens in this country. We really do not feel that these hearings are necessary. The Congress could and should vote immediately.” That August, Hernandez and NOW organized a national [Women’s Strike for Equality](#), which marked the 50th anniversary of the 19th Amendment by [declaring](#) “Women do not yet have the full freedom and equal status that is their birthright as human beings.” Thousands of marchers paraded in New York City and around the country, carrying signs that articulated demands for equality at home and on the job.” <http://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/women-of-the-ilgwu-aileen-clarke-hernandez/>



Aileen Hernandez



# The Power of the Mirror

“In a patriarchal society such as ours, the appointment of a female head of state not only sets the standard for the future but also normalizes women as decision-makers in public life,” tweeted Fitsum Arega, the prime minister’s chief of staff and de facto government spokesman”

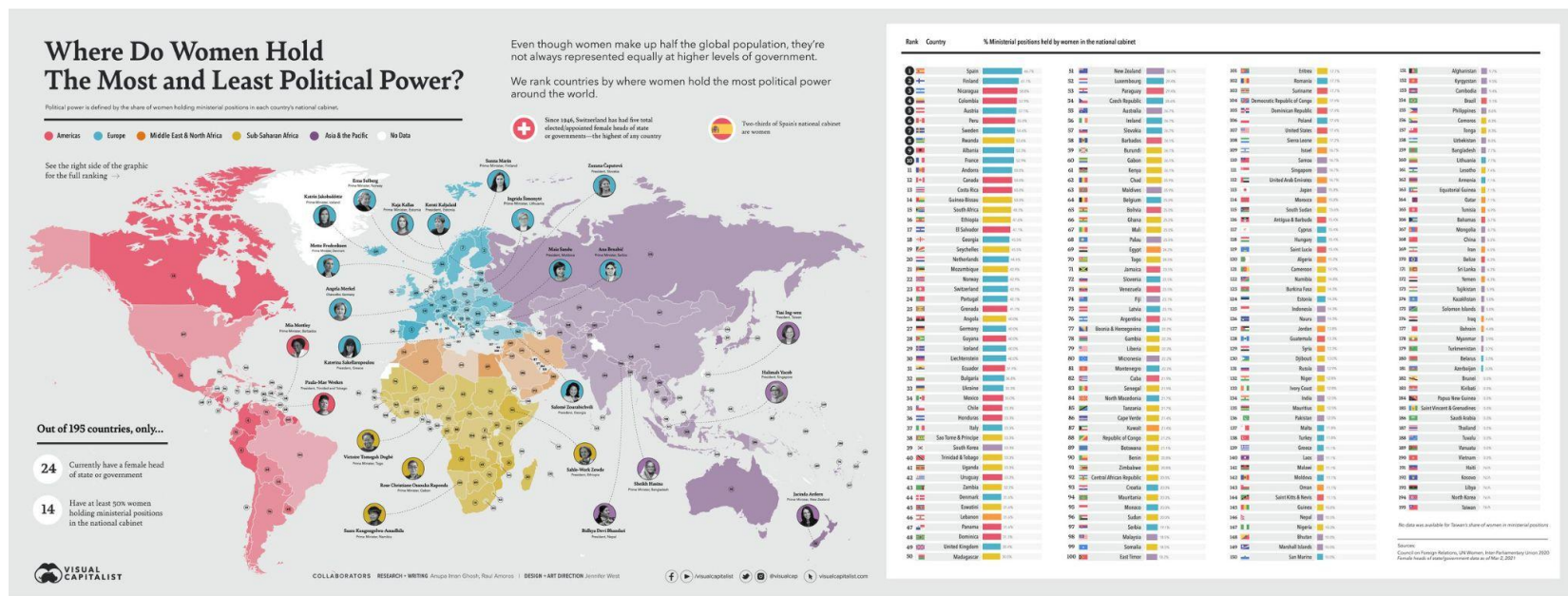
[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/ethiopia-appoints-first-female-president-in-its-modern-history-in-latest-reform/2018/10/25/3514d3a4-d82b-11e8-a10f-b51546b10756\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/ethiopia-appoints-first-female-president-in-its-modern-history-in-latest-reform/2018/10/25/3514d3a4-d82b-11e8-a10f-b51546b10756_story.html)



Sahle-Work, first female President of Ethiopia elected in 2018

“In remarks in Parliament after she took her oath of office, Sahle-Work emphasized the importance of respecting women and the need to build a “society that rejects the oppression of women.”

# Heads of State Globally

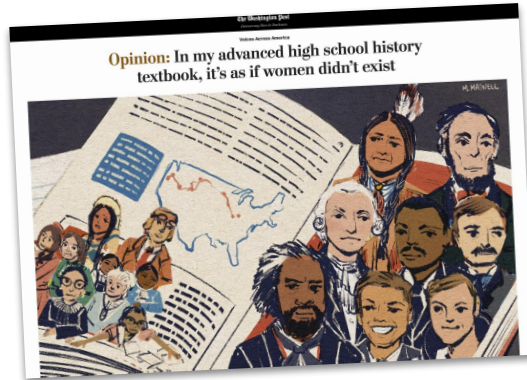


<https://publichealthmaps.org/motw-2022/2022/3/8/8-march-2022-where-do-women-hold-the-most-and-least-political-power>



Here is a recent op-ed from the Washington Post written by a high school senior.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/01/01/advanced-placement-history-textbook-women/>



By Micaela Wells

January 1, 2022 at 3:25 p.m. EST

*Micaela Wells is a senior at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria.*

Once, after second-grade history class, I came home and jokingly asked, "So did women just not exist?"

Ten years later, the question stands. But I'm no longer laughing.

I'm a high school senior who recently completed AP U.S. History, whose curriculum is the national standard for advanced high school history education. Although my textbook — branded AMSCO, and published by a company called Perfection Learning — isn't endorsed by AP or the College Board, it closely follows the official AP U.S. History curriculum.

In this advanced text is a 20-page chapter on World War II. As I read about President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Pan-American conferences and the war's impact on society, I came across a paragraph creatively titled "Women." Merely a hundred words later, "women" were abandoned.

I was bothered that the writers had deemed 100 words sufficient for teaching students everything important about women during that era. What bothered me even more was my own lack of surprise.

Perhaps some would say *of course* there are fewer famously influential women than men throughout history, considering the cultural norms that long created gender-based divisions and hierarchies. But that's a lazy assumption. Curious, I did the least I could do — Googled "important women in American history" — and obtained myriad results. Which raises the question: Why did the writers of my textbook neglect to do the same? Or if they did bother, why was the information excluded?

If education reflects our societal values — and if textbooks provide the foundation of our education — then AP U.S. History is perpetuating for all students the idea that women are comparatively worthless. Worse, it's sending the message to girls that their stories and accomplishments don't matter.

Click for whole article:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/01/01/advanced-placement-history-textbook-women/>

# Notable Women in Women's Liberation

Link to trailer for film

<https://vimeo.com/168813512>



Gloria Steinem and Aileen Hernandez. Steinem had been a reporter who became part of the WLM and started Ms. Magazine. She became a prominent spokesperson and still is! Hernandez was early member of NOW and first woman on the EEOC



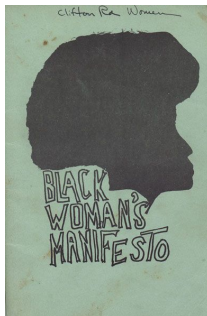
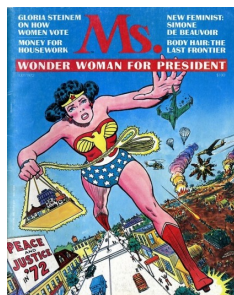
Frances M. Beal co-founder of Black Women's Liberation Committee and author of Black Woman's Manifesto



Kathie Sarachild volunteered for Freedom Summer and then co-founded Redstockings and concept of consciousness raising. watch interview <https://vimeo.com/520411555>



Byllie Avery co-founded Gainesville Women's Health Clinic and Black Women's Health Network. watch her interview <https://vimeo.com/62380838>



Vivian Rothstein volunteered for Freedom Summer, traveled to North Vietnam and met with women, helped co-found Chicago Women's Liberation Union. Watch her interview <https://vimeo.com/520411555>



Lesbian women were an essential part of the women's Liberation movement



Barbara Smith



Rita Mae Brown



Heather Booth is an activist in civil rights, women's liberation. She helped found Chicago Women's Liberation Union

Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339



# A poem by Margaret Sloan-Hunter

Memory  
(For Ginny Foat)

I remember a Movement, once  
where we took great pleasure  
in small triumphs  
and challenged language  
and doors being held open,  
and everything mattered.  
and we viewed each injustice  
as political, because it  
personally affected our very lives.

I remember a Movement, once  
where CR groups were an understood  
prerequisite  
to being on the line and  
we protested words, songs, and  
images we found offensive

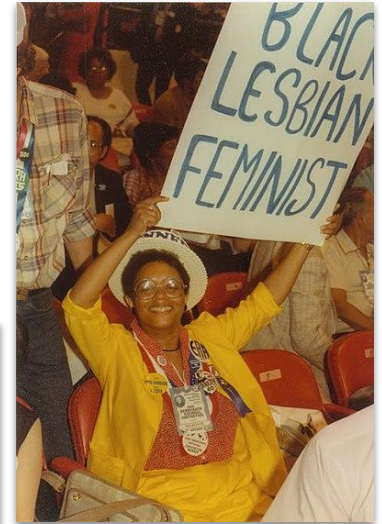
I remember a Movement, once  
where we were not afraid to say "no" to men  
and keep them out of our too-small spaces  
we created  
in order to live

I remember a Movement, once  
where thousands of women  
marched on August 26th  
across the land  
and now that day passes with hardly a sound

I remember a Movement, once  
where "Feminist" needed  
no adjective  
and Lesbians slept with women  
and were in the vanguard  
of all our changes

I remember a Movement, once  
where Sisterhood was truly  
powerful and  
we would celebrate  
even if the victory was lost  
because we had battled-  
and we had battled well.

-Margaret Sloan-Hunter  
Black & Lavender 1995



# Some Notable California Women



<https://wmccollections.omeka.net/exhibits/show/historicalltimelines/notablewomenincalifornia>

Biddy Mason

Dr. Elizabeth Follansbee

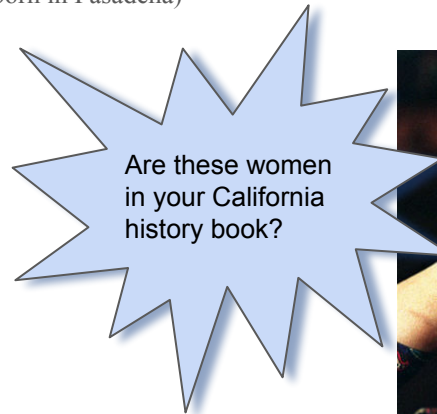
Charlotta Spears Bass

Aileen Hernandez

Octavia Butler (born in Pasadena)

Dolores Huerta

Sally Ride



Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339

# Phrases from WLM!

## Don't Iron While The Strike is Hot!

Sisterhood Is Powerful

Sisterhood is Global

The Personal Is Political

Women Make Policy Not Coffee

This is what a feminist looks like

Women Belong in the House and in the Senate

(1970s - they couldn't picture a female president, yet.)

Failure Is Impossible

The Future is Female



# Why do Women in Leadership Matter?



“Where there are more women in decision-making positions, we see more inclusive decisions, and we find different solutions to long-standing problems.” This notion is rooted in the belief that men and women have **fundamentally divergent leadership styles** and that, once in office, women will advance a feminist agenda.”

[WEForum](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/12/do-men-and-women-have-different-leadership-styles/)

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/12/do-men-and-women-have-different-leadership-styles/>

“To be sure, many Western democracies are bad role models when it comes to women’s political participation and leadership. In the United States, only 89 of the 535 members of Congress – 16.6 percent -- are women, and fewer than a quarter of the members of the French and Canadian parliaments are women. This situation is appalling and needs to change.

The real question, however, is not who is already doing this right, but rather why it matters. The answer doesn’t lie with abstract notions of fairness or **unsubstantiated claims** that women are a kinder and more altruistic breed than men. It matters because women’s political participation and leadership are necessary for democracy to function most effectively. <https://www.hrw.org/news/2011/06/24/why-women-politics-matter#>

← As of 2021 “Counting both the House of Representatives and the Senate, 144 of 539 seats – or 27% – are held by women.”

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/01/15/a-record-number-of-women-are-serving-in-the-117th-congress/>

Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339



# The 1980s and Women's Liberation

The 1980s saw the rise of women's self help in health care that began in the 1970s.

Take Back the Night marches exposed issues of violence against women.

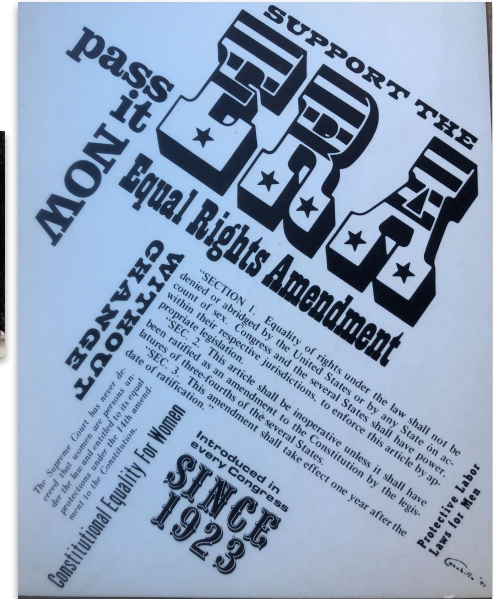
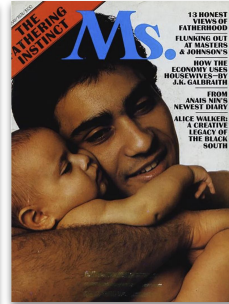
Women were demanding that domestic violence be dealt with fairly in the courts and by police officers. The concept of women's self-defense was beginning.

Ms. Magazine was covering all of these issues. They had a great section in the magazine called No Comment - it was a column devoted to sexist ads and letters that were sent into the magazine by people across the country.

The USA had its first female Vice Presidential nominee: Geraldine Ferraro.

We lost the ERA.

Women were entering the workforce in large numbers and shoulder pads were in fashion! (This was indicative of an idea that women in the workforce at an executive level would be mini-men.)



## More information

Feminist: Stories From Women's Liberation  
<http://www.wmm.com/filmcatalog/pages/c876.shtml>

Reflections Unheard: Black Women In Civil Rights  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EBO8kFmuEb4>

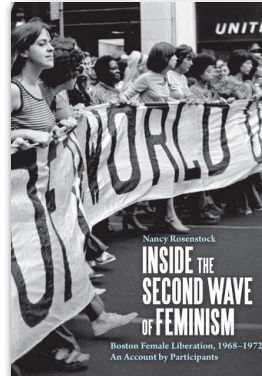
More Actions: The takeover of the Ladies Home Journal editorial offices and their demands: <https://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/content/feminists-sit-ladies-home-journal-protest-magazine-s-depiction-women-1970>

**Organizations:** Chicago Women's Graphic Collective: This is a good source for posters. <https://www.cwluherstory.org/chicago-womens-graphics-collective-1/>

The Feminist Chronicles:  
<http://www.feminist.org/research/chronicles/chronicl.html>

National Women's History Project <http://www.nwhp.org/>

Duke University Archives Sallie Bingham Collection  
<https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/bingham/events/envisioning-the-future>



Is the Women's  
Liberation Movement in  
your school history book?

Jennifer Hall Lee 818-219-9339