



THE RIGHT
TO VOTE

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The Struggle for

THE RIGHT TO VOTE



WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
The struggle for women's right to vote was a long and difficult process. It began in the 1840s and continued through the 1920s. Women fought for the right to vote through various means, including petitions, rallies, and civil disobedience. The Seneca Falls Convention in 1848 was a key event in the movement. The 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote, was passed in 1920.

AFRICAN AMERICAN
African American men and women fought for the right to vote during the Reconstruction era. The 15th Amendment, which granted African American men the right to vote, was passed in 1870. However, many states used various tactics to circumvent the amendment and deny the vote to African Americans. The Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s fought to end these discriminatory practices. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was a landmark piece of legislation that prohibited racial discrimination in voting.



THE 15TH AMENDMENT
The 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution, passed in 1870, granted African American men the right to vote. It was a significant step towards equality, but it was often circumvented by states using various tactics to deny the vote to African Americans. The Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s fought to end these discriminatory practices. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was a landmark piece of legislation that prohibited racial discrimination in voting.

THE 19TH AMENDMENT
The 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, passed in 1920, granted women the right to vote. It was a significant step towards equality, but it was often circumvented by states using various tactics to deny the vote to women. The Women's Suffrage Movement of the 19th and 20th centuries fought to end these discriminatory practices. The 19th Amendment was a landmark piece of legislation that granted women the right to vote.



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THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT

Black males were given the vote by the 15th amendment. Many say slavery was just the beginning of the struggle for equality. But until the Voting Rights Act of 1965, almost a century later, would African Americans actually receive their right to all rights.



THE NINETEENTH AMENDMENT

After decades of women's oppression and equality toward women's suffrage, the Senate approved the amendment in 1913 upon the signing of President Woodrow Wilson. It was not in the same year however, women were given the right to vote with the amendment's passage in 1920.



How To Vote For Woman Suffrage
Amendment, Election Day,
November 6th, 1917

THE FORM OF BALLOT WILL BE AS FOLLOWS

111 AMENDMENT No. 1
Should the proposed Amendment to confer
upon the people of the Commonwealth the
right of suffrage upon women be
adopted?

111 AMENDMENT No. 2
Should the proposed Amendment to amend
Section 2 of Article III of the Constitution so
that it shall read as follows be adopted?

Vote "YES" on Amendment No. 1
as marked above

N. Y. State Woman Suffrage Party
60 STATE STREET, ALBANY, N. Y.



WHY THE WOMAN
THE SUFFRAGE

THE SUFFRAGE is the right of every citizen to vote in the election of public officers and upon all public questions. It is the most important right of citizenship, and the one which gives the citizen the greatest influence upon the government. It is the right which makes the citizen a master instead of a slave, and the one which gives him the greatest satisfaction and the most honor. It is the right which makes the citizen a man instead of a child, and the one which gives him the greatest respect and the most admiration. It is the right which makes the citizen a citizen instead of a subject, and the one which gives him the greatest freedom and the most independence. It is the right which makes the citizen a citizen instead of a subject, and the one which gives him the greatest freedom and the most independence.

WHY?

REASON: The woman is a citizen, and as such she should have the same rights and responsibilities as the man. She has the same intelligence, the same capacity for hard work, and the same ability to contribute to the welfare of the community. She should have the same voice in the government as the man, and she should have the same right to vote as the man.

RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO VOTE

FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

ABOLITION OF SUFFRAGE QUALIFICATIONS ON BASIS OF RACE

Adoption and Judicial Enforcement

Adoption -- The final decision of Congress not to include anything relating to the right to vote in the Fourteenth Amendment, aside from the provisions of § 2,¹ left the issue of Negro suffrage solely with the States, and Northern States were generally as ready as Southern to grant the ballot to African Americans, both the newly freed and those who had never been slaves.² But in the second session of the 39th Congress, the right to vote was extended to African Americans by statute in the District of Columbia and the territories, and the seceded States as a condition of readmission had to guarantee Negro suffrage.³ Following the election of President Grant, the "lame duck" third session of the Fortieth Congress sent the proposed Fifteenth Amendment to the States for ratification. This struggle was intense because Congress was divided into roughly three factions: those who opposed any federal constitutional guarantee of Negro suffrage, those who wanted to go beyond a limited guarantee and enact universal male suffrage, including abolition of all educational and property-holding tests, and those who wanted or who were willing to settle for an amendment merely