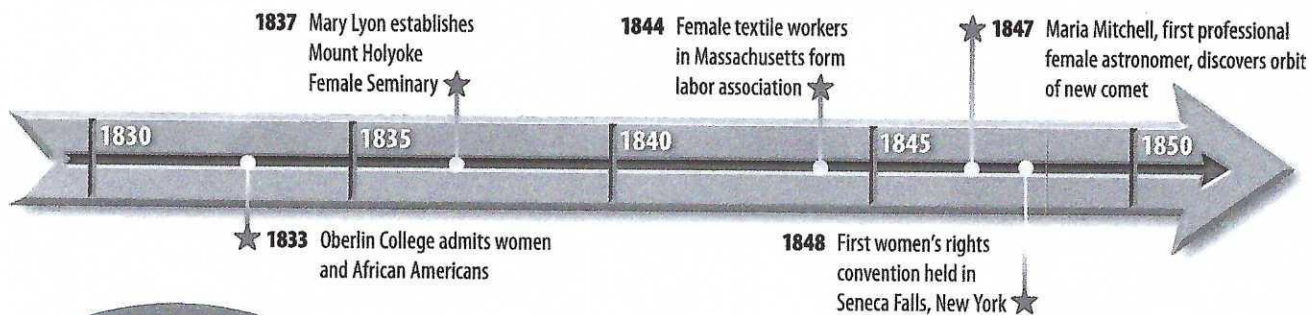


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## OPPORTUNITY AND ACHIEVEMENT FOR WOMEN



### INFOGRAPHIC

In the mid-1800s, women began to argue for—and earn—their own rights and an equal place in society.

- 1 **IDENTIFYING** Which items on the time line reflect growing opportunities for women to learn and gain skills?
- 2 **CRITICAL THINKING**  
*Analyzing* Which items on the time line suggest women were using their education to achieve great things?

Elizabeth Stanton insisted the resolutions include a demand for woman suffrage. Some delegates worried that the idea was too radical. Mott told her friend, “Lizzie, thee will make us ridiculous.” Standing with Stanton, Frederick Douglass argued powerfully for women’s right to vote. After a heated debate, the convention voted to include in their declaration the demand for woman suffrage in the United States.

### The Seneca Falls Declaration

The first women’s rights convention called for women’s equality and for their right to vote, to speak publicly, and to run for office. The convention issued a Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions modeled on the Declaration of Independence. Just as Thomas Jefferson had in 1776, women are announcing the need for revolutionary change based on a claim of basic rights:

#### PRIMARY SOURCE

“When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one portion of the family of man to assume among the people of the earth a position different from that which they have hitherto [before] occupied, but one to which the laws of nature and of nature’s God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes that impel them to such a course.”

In this passage, two important words—*and women*—are added to Thomas Jefferson’s famous phrase:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. . . .”

### Reading HELPDESK



**suffrage** the right to vote