

There's More Online!

- GRAPHIC ORGANIZER
  Women's Rights Leaders
- PRIMARY SOURCE
  William Lloyd Garrison
  on Frederick Douglass
- TIME LINE Opportunity and Achievement for Women











Lesson 3

# The Women's Movement

SENTIAL QUESTION How do new ideas change the way people live?

## IT MATTERS BECAUSE

Women began the long quest for expanded rights, including the right to vote, in the mid-1800s.

## **Reform for Women**

GUIDING QUESTION What did women do to win equal rights?

For women such as Lucretia Mott, causes such as abolition and women's rights were linked. Like many other women reformers, Mott was a Quaker. Quaker women enjoyed an unusual degree of equality in their communities. Mott was actively involved in helping runaway enslaved workers. She organized the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society. At an antislavery convention in London, Mott met Elizabeth Cady Stanton. The two found they also shared an interest in women's rights.

#### The Seneca Falls Convention

In July 1848, Stanton and Mott helped organize the first women's . rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York. About 300 people, including 40 men, attended.

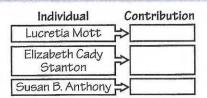
A highlight of the convention was debate over a Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions. These resolutions called for an end to laws that discriminated against women. They also demanded that women be allowed to enter the all-male world of trades, professions, and businesses. The most controversial issue, however, was the call for woman **suffrage**, or the right to vote in elections.

New York Academic Standards 7.7a, 7.7c

## Reading HELPDESK

### Taking Notes: Summarizing

As you read, use a diagram like this one to summarize the contributions each individual made to the women's movement.



#### **Content Vocabulary**

- suffrage
- coeducation

#### **OPPORTUNITY AND ACHIEVEMENT FOR WOMEN** 1837 Mary Lyon establishes **1844** Female textile workers 1847 Maria Mitchell, first professional Mount Holyoke in Massachusetts form female astronomer, discovers orbit labor association 🤺 Female Seminary of new comet 1830 1835 1840 1845 1833 Oberlin College admits women 1848 First women's rights and African Americans convention held in Seneca Falls, New York 🤺 **INFOGRAPHIC**

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

- on the time line reflect growing opportunities for women to learn and gain skills?
- 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:

66 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. . . . 99

Reading HELPDESK

CCS

suffrage the right to vote