

INDIANA

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

CENTENNIAL

# TEACHER TOOLKIT

*Image: Five suffragists on tour. Indiana State Library.*

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INDIANA SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL

# On Aug. 26, 1920, Hoosier women won the right to vote.

At first glance, the meaning behind that statement is simple. But the real story goes much deeper.

In Indiana, almost seventy years passed between the first calls for women's voting rights and the passage of the 19th Amendment. And, though momentous, 1920 is just one milestone in a long and ongoing journey, and access to the voting booth is just one part of what it means to be an equal part of the democratic process.

The Indiana Women's Suffrage Centennial, catalyzed by Indiana Humanities, the Indianapolis Propylaeum, the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Historical Bureau, working with many grassroots and local partners, marks the anniversary of the 19th Amendment. We invite Hoosiers to honor the ideas and ideals that fueled the suffrage movement in Indiana, and the people who led the way; to engage in a conversation about inclusion, equity, perseverance and power; to consider what remains to be done to ensure that our democracy truly includes everyone; and to identify and act on the lessons of the women's suffrage movement.

## OUR GOALS

- To inspire Hoosiers to think, read and talk about the history and significance of women's suffrage
- To drive and discover scholarship about women's suffrage and political participation in Indiana
- To highlight Hoosiers who played a role in the suffrage movement in Indiana and nationally
- To encourage everyone to vote and engage fully in the democratic process
- To inspire civic action and persistence among kids and teens today

You can help us achieve our goals by teaching the remarkable and exciting history of women's suffrage in Indiana. This toolkit was designed for Hoosier educators. In this guide you'll find resources to help you teach the history of women's suffrage both nationally and in Indiana, including:

- Big ideas about Indiana women's suffrage and the centennial
- Questions for students to think about or do research projects with
- A brief history of women's suffrage in Indiana
- Reading and viewing lists for grades K-6th, 5th-8th and 9-12th
- Information on book kits and a new speakers bureau to help you teach Indiana women's suffrage history
- A timeline of suffrage milestones in Indiana and nationally
- A selection of primary sources for teaching Indiana women's suffrage history

## BIG IDEAS

These are some of the big ideas we encourage all Hoosiers, including teachers and students, to think, read and talk about as we mark the centennial of women's suffrage.

- Today, women's suffrage seems like an obvious component of democracy. One hundred years ago, it was a controversial idea that even some women opposed. Championing it required courage, perseverance and organized activism.
- The centennial of women's suffrage is an opportunity to honor the Hoosiers who played a role in the suffrage movement.
- Like all social movements, suffrage was an imperfect process. Activists disagreed over strategy and tactics, and women of color and working-class women didn't always have a seat at the table. One of the lessons is that forming "a more perfect union" is and always has been messy.
- While the 19th Amendment gave women access to the voting booth, the struggle for full equality continues. Today, we all can learn from the women who fought for the vote as we fight to ensure equality for all.
- As we acknowledge the impact suffrage had on women, we also should consider where our laws, culture and institutions might be keeping others from fully engaging in our democracy.
- The role of Hoosiers in the suffrage movement is a story that isn't fully known or told. This is Indiana's opportunity to delve into that history and capture it for future generations.

## KEY QUESTIONS

Encourage your students to do research about Indiana women's political efforts, including the fight for suffrage. Here are some questions that can get them started.

- Who were the rebellious women (and men) who led the women's suffrage movement in Indiana?
- How did women shape policy and politics before they won the right to vote?
- Who opposed women's suffrage, and why?
- What was left undone?
- Who got left behind?
- How did women's official entry into the political arena shape policy and the political landscape after 1920?
- How did the women's suffrage movement inspire and affect the women's equality movements of the 1960s and 1970s?
- In what ways does the struggle continue?
- What barriers to full equality and civic participation remain for women? How and why are the barriers steeper for women of color and working-class women?

# “An Act of Tardy Justice”: The Story of Women’s Suffrage in Indiana

In 1851, Winchester native Amanda Way called for a women’s rights convention—the kick off to a 69-year effort to guarantee women’s right to vote in Indiana. Between then and the moment when Gov. James P. Goodrich, also a Winchester native, oversaw the state’s ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920, Indiana women organized, marched, petitioned and sometimes resisted. There were ups and downs along the way, including two major wars and a brief moment in 1917 when it seemed the state would beat the nation in the race for women’s suffrage—an exciting summer when Indiana women flooded the polls before the franchise was snatched from them again. In 1920, Hoosier women’s continuous and tireless work paid off and their goal was realized. On January 16, the Indiana General Assembly approved the national amendment for women’s suffrage; then, at last, on August 26, the U.S. Congress approved the final paperwork ratifying the change to the Constitution.



*Circa 1910s. Women gained the right to vote when the 19th Amendment was ratified on August 18, 1920. Suffragist activists marched and lobbied for years before this was accomplished. This photo shows suffragists in Hebron, Indiana.*

*Image: Postcard, Suffragettes in Hebron, Indiana. Indiana Historical Society, P0408.*

## Early Steps

Indiana Quaker women and men were central to the start of the story. Early on, suffrage was one of a number of women’s rights for which Quakers advocated. These demands also included improved property rights, access to the same jobs and education as men, and equal pay for equal work. Only three years after Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott and Frederick Douglass attended the famous Seneca Falls Convention in New York in 1848, Hoosier women met in Dublin, Indiana, and formed the Indiana Woman’s Rights Association (IWRA). It’s widely considered one of the first state-level suffrage organizations.

The IWRA met annually through 1859, the same year that three suffragists presented the first women’s suffrage petition to the Indiana legislature. However, due to the Civil War, the voting rights movement got sidetracked. Though the editors of Peru’s *The Mayflower* found a way to support both the war and suffrage and continued to publish in the early 1860s, many women turned their attention to supporting the war effort. Here and around the country, suffragists saw the mobilization toward war as an opportunity to prove their “fitness” for suffrage, throwing themselves into volunteer work to support Union men on the field and their families at home. Yet when the war was over, despite women’s support of men, neither Congress nor the Indiana General Assembly recognized women’s hard work and devotion. The battle off the field, for the right to vote, would continue.

## A Galvanizing Defeat

The IWRA began meeting again in 1869, the first year that historians can document that African American women attended Indiana women’s suffrage meetings. Over the next fifty-odd years, their attempts to secure the vote were continually hampered by the Indiana Constitution itself.



Its structure made it difficult for women to gain the vote through the state legislative process. Any amendment to the state constitution had to be approved by two separate legislative sessions—yet the state legislature convened only every other year. Therefore, it took at least two years to amend the constitution, making the challenge steeper for suffragists and giving their opponents more time to organize and kill any proposed suffrage law or amendment. This challenge reared its head in 1881, when Indiana legislators approved an amendment granting Hoosier women the right to vote. But when the Indiana General Assembly reconvened in 1883, it was discovered that the 1881 law had mysteriously not been recorded in the official legislative record from the previous session. Thus, according to the Indiana Constitution, the suffrage amendment couldn't be voted on a second time because it officially didn't exist.

## Nevertheless, They Persisted



*Circa 1900s. The women are possibly campaigning for the right to vote in Brookville, Indiana.*

*Image: Election Day Scene. Indiana Historical Society, P0468.*

Though Hoosier suffragists had deployed various political tactics leading up to the debate of 1881–83, they got even more organized and learned even more ways to hone their political skills. Though it would take men making legislative actions to get women the right to vote, it was women themselves who agitated, pushed and persisted. Suffragists presented petitions and gave speeches to several sessions of the state legislature. Indiana women asked for and were assigned offices at the state house so they could lobby legislators; to keep up the pressure, they learned how to call in extra suffragists at a moment's notice. Susan B. Anthony, during one of several visits to the Hoosier state, asked a joint session of the general assembly to request a national suffrage amendment, memorably declaring, "I want the politicians of Indiana to see that there are women as well as men in this State, and they will never see it until they give them the right to vote. Make the brain under the bonnet count for as much as the brain under the hat."

Indiana women also formed powerful and well-organized groups, including the Woman's Franchise League, the Legislative Council, and the Indianapolis Equal Suffrage Society. By 1912, African American Hoosier women had formed their own suffrage associations, one of these meeting for the first time in the home of Madam CJ Walker.

*Circa 1860s. May Wright Sewall is pictured as a young woman in this cased image. Born in Wisconsin in 1844, Sewall came to Indiana in the early 1870s. She was a teacher, having founded the Indianapolis Girls' Classical School with her second husband. She was also a reformer, and served as a close ally to such national suffrage leaders as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. Sewall helped found the Indianapolis Equal Suffrage Society in 1878 and also helped establish several Indianapolis organizations including the Indianapolis Woman's Club, the Indianapolis Propylaeum, the Art Association of Indianapolis (later known as the Indianapolis Museum of Art), and the Contemporary Club.*



*Image: Portrait of May Wright Sewall as a young woman. Indiana Historical Society, SC2991.*

In the midst of all of this activity and the constant setbacks, World War I broke out (the U.S. didn't enter the war until 1917). Like most of their counterparts across the nation, the majority of Hoosier suffragists answered the call to support the Great War. But they learned a lesson from the suffrage movement during the Civil War. This time, they made suffrage a part of the plan to "make the world safe for democracy." Suffragists knitted socks for soldiers, raised money for Liberty Loans and spoke in support of the war to various civic groups. But unlike during the 1860s, they participated in these efforts while also agitating for suffrage. Activists cannily connected their cause to the surge of wartime patriotism and rhetoric around the idea of "duty."

Given the increasing power of the suffrage movement and the heightened expectations raised by World War I, progress appeared favorable in 1917. Thanks to continued and increasing agitation in Indiana and nationally, the Indiana General Assembly actually passed three laws favored by suffragists during the 1917 session. The first called for a convention to be held in September, for the purpose of drafting a new state constitution (with the hopes that the new constitution would include women's suffrage). The second law amended the current state constitution to allow for women's suffrage (which in order to become effective would have to be passed again by the 1919 legislature and approved by a majority of voters—though the passage of the constitutional convention bill and the prospects of a new state constitution appeared to make this law moot). The third law offered Indiana women partial suffrage, giving them the right to vote for presidential

Thus, even with setbacks at the state level in 1917, and again at the federal level (the U.S. Senate failed to pass a federal amendment in 1918), women kept driving toward their goal.

electors, for some state offices and in municipal elections that very year. Just as important, it also gave them the right to vote for delegates to the upcoming constitutional convention and for ratification of the new constitution.

Imagine the scene: Thousands of Indiana women celebrating their victories, rushing out to register to vote over the course of the summer of 1917. Women in their eighties and nineties joined younger women at clerks' offices around the state. The first women to vote in the state were in Warren County; Mrs. JE McCloud was at the head of the line, thus was possibly the first woman to cast a ballot in the state. In Columbus, two African American women were the first women to register. "There was a boom Tuesday afternoon in the matter of registration... when a long file of women entered the courthouse," remembered Natalie Parker, the president of the Porter County Woman's Franchise League; by the end of the summer, 80 percent of all registered voters in Porter County were women.

Then came the next setback, which for Indiana women was possibly even more difficult to endure than the 1881–83 debacle. Men who opposed women's suffrage challenged both the constitutional convention law and the partial suffrage law, and in separate rulings the Indiana Supreme Court found them to be unconstitutional. There would be no opportunity to introduce suffrage in a new state constitution, and women were stripped of their partial suffrage rights effective October 26, 1917. The constitutional amendment law still stood, but that meant restarting a long, slow process.

## Home Stretch

The defeat of the 1917 effort heightened the importance of a federal suffrage amendment. Suffragists around the country had long debated whether state-level or federal action was the way to accomplish their goal, but by 1915, many Indiana activists, along with their sisters around the country, had coalesced around Carrie Chapman Catt and the National American Woman Suffrage Association's "Winning Plan." This plan had state-level suffragists campaigning for individual states to expand the franchise while also putting pressure on Congress to pass a federal amendment. Thus, even with setbacks at the state level in 1917, and again at the federal level (the U.S. Senate failed to pass a federal amendment in 1918), women kept

driving toward their goal. "Real patriotism," Mrs. Richard E. Edwards, the president of the Woman's Franchise League of Indiana, wrote, "demands that we serve the Government no matter how out of patience we get with state authorities." In 1918, Indiana suffragists set themselves the task of recruiting 100,000 members and 700,000 signatures petitioning Congress to pass a suffrage amendment. Mrs. Fred H. McCulloch of Fort Wayne, the chairwoman of this effort, said it would "be the instrument by which we can do it."

So, with this final wave of pressure from suffragists, the U.S. Congress finally approved the 19th Amendment and sent it to the states for ratification after World War I ended. Indiana became the 26th state to ratify it, on January 16, 1920. It went into effect on August 26, eight days after the two-thirds majority for ratification had been achieved.

Indiana women had been everywhere in the fight for suffrage. Women like Dr. Mary Thomas, Amanda Way, May Wright Sewall, Grace Julian Clarke, Helen Gougar, Zerelda Wallace, Dr. Amelia Keller, Martha McKay, Sara Messing Stern, Dr. Hannah Graham, Laura Donnan, Carrie Barnes, Mary Nicholson, Luella McWhirter, Marie Edwards, Charity Dye, Harriet Noble, Sara and Eldena Lauter, Emma Swank, Frances Berry Coston, Ida Husted Harper, Mary Garrett Hay, and Elizabeth Boyton Harbart worked for suffrage in the state and across the nation. They surely agreed with Governor Goodrich when, in 1920, he described the ratification of the 19th Amendment as "an act of tardy justice."

### Dr. Anita Morgan, IUPUI 2019

Dr. Anita Morgan teaches history at IUPUI and is working on a book-length project about the suffrage movement in Indiana.

## READING LISTS

### K-5TH GRADE BOOKS + WEBSITES

***Amazing Women*** by Caryn Jenner (ages 9-11)

Builds on reading skills while teaching vocabulary and telling the stories of influential women while highlighting important historical moments in women's history, like the Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls.

***Around America to Win the Vote: Two Suffragists, A Kitten, and 10,000 Miles*** by Mara Rockcliff (ages 5-8)

In April 1916, Nell Richardson and Alice Burke set out from New York City in a little yellow car, embarking on a bumpy, muddy, unmapped journey ten thousand miles long. They took with them a teeny typewriter, a tiny sewing machine, a wee black kitten, and a message for Americans: Votes for Women!

***Bring Out the Banners*** by Geoffrey Trease (ages 9-11)

Belle, Flora and Guy, all from very different backgrounds, are drawn into the same cause with consequences that are both moving and exciting. This is not merely a historical treatise, but a commentary on the lives of women in contemporary society.

***Elizabeth Started All the Trouble*** by Doreen Rappaport (ages 6-9)

Elizabeth called on women across the nation to stand together and demand to be treated as equal to men. With the help of these trailblazers' own words, Rappaport uses engaging text and vibrant illustrations to show how far the revolution has come, and inspires them to keep it going.

***Fighting for Equality: A Life of May Wright Sewel*** by Ray E. Boomhower (ages 9-12)

A biography aimed at young readers showcasing Sewall's important contributions to the history of Indianapolis, Indiana, the United States, and the world.

***Girls for the Vote*** by Linda Newbery (ages 6-9)

Paulina Stubbs, a twelve-year-old girl in 1914, finds her neat and uncomplicated world upturned when two neighbors arrive to live upstairs from Polly and her family.

***Heart On Fire: Susan B. Anthony Votes for President*** by Ann Malaspina (ages 4-8)

On November 5, 1872, Susan B. Anthony made history—and broke the law—when she voted in the US presidential election, a privilege that had been reserved for men. She was arrested, tried and found guilty.

***I Could Do That!*** By Linda White (ages 7-9)

With lively text and humorous illustrations, this striking picture book biography is the true story of Esether Morris, who started out life believing she could do anything, and then proved it, by building her own business, raising a family in the Wild West, working to get women the vote, and becoming the first female judge and the first woman in the U.S. to hold political office.

***Ida B. Wells: Let the Truth Be Told*** by Walter Dean Myers (ages 4-8)

This picture book biography introduces the extraordinary Ida B. Wells. Long before boycotts, sit-ins, and freedom rides, Ida B. Wells was hard at work to better the lives of African Americans.

***Marching with Aunt Susan: Susan B. Anthony and the Fight for Women's Suffrage*** by Claire Rudolf Murphy (ages 6-10)

All Bessie wants is to go hiking with her father and brothers. But it's 1896, and girls don't get to hike. They can't vote either, which Bessie discovers when Susan B. Anthony comes to town to help lead the campaign for women's suffrage.

***Miss Paul and the President*** by Robbins and Zhang (ages 4-8)

Brings the unsung hero to vivid life and shows young voters-to-be how important it is to never back down from a cause you believe in!



***What Is the Women’s Rights Movement?*** by Deborah Hopkinson (ages 8-12)

From Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton to Gloria Steinem and Hillary Clinton, women throughout U.S. History have fought for equality. Celebrate how far women have come with this inspiring read!

***Who Was Susan B. Anthony?*** by Pamela D. Pollack & Meg Belviso (ages 3-7)

Susan B. Anthony may be an international icon but her campaign for women’s rights had personal roots. Learn more about the woman behind the movement.

[\*\*A Mighty Girl\*\*](#) Teaching Kids About the U.S. Suffrage Movement.

[\*\*BrainPop\*\*](#) Tim and Moby teach about the struggle for women’s voting rights, or suffrage.

[\*\*Scholastic Teacher’s Activity Guide\*\*](#) History of Women’s Suffrage, Effie Hobby’s story, related booklist.

[\*\*Teach A Girl to Lead\*\*](#) Lesson modules created by the Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics.

## 6TH-8TH GRADE BOOKS

***A Woman In The House (And Senate): How Women Came to the United States Congress, Broke Down Barriers, and Changed the Country*** by Ilene Cooper (ages 8-14)

For the first 128 years of our country’s history, not a single woman served in the Senate or House of Representatives. All of that changed, however, in November 1916, when Jeannette Rankin of Montana became the first woman elected to Congress—even before the 19th Amendment gave women across the U.S. the right to vote.

***A Question of Courage*** by Marjorie Darke (ages 11-14)

Emily’s life changes as she joins the suffragette movement to win votes for women. She learns much about life and politics, friendship and courage and has her first romance.

***Hoosiers and the American Story*** by James H. Madison and Lee Ann Sandweiss

Middle and high school textbook focusing on people and events that makeup the Hoosier story.

***Indiana’s 200: The People Who Shaped the Hoosier State*** by Linda C. Gugin and James E. St. Claire

Written by historians, scholars, biographers, and independent researchers, the biographical essays will enhance the public’s knowledge and appreciation of those who made a difference in the lives of Hoosiers, the country, and even the world.

***Roses and Radicals: The Epic Story of How American Women Won the Right to Vote*** by Susan Zimet and Todd Hasak-Lowy (ages 10+)

Celebrates suffrage as a captivating yet overlooked piece of American history and the women who made it happen.

***The Feminist Revolution—a Story of the Three Most Inspiring and Empowering Women in American History: Susan B. Anthony, Margaret Sanger, and Betty Friedan*** by Jules Archer (ages 12+)

Offers biographies of Susan B. Anthony, Margaret Sanger, and Betty Friedan, with a full background of the political organization they worked for and against.

***Things a Bright Girl Can Do*** by Sally Nicholls (ages 12-14)

Three young women are suffragettes in England, campaigning for equality and the right to vote. When a foreign Archduke is assassinated, everything changes with WWI—but not in the way they hoped or imagined.

***Votes for Women!: American Suffragists and the Battle for the Ballot*** by Winifred Conkling (ages 12-16)

From Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who founded the suffrage movement at the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention, to Sojourner Truth and her famous “Ain’t I a Woman?” speech, to Alice Paul, arrested and force-fed in prison, this is the story of the American women’s suffrage movement and the private lives that fueled its leaders’ dedication.

***Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom (With a Few Flat Tires Along the Way)*** by Sue Macy (ages 10+)

Take a lively look at women's history from aboard a bicycle, which granted females the freedom of mobility and helped empower women's liberation. Through vintage photographs, advertisements, cartoons, and songs, this book transports readers to bygone eras to see how women used the bicycle to improve their lives.

***With Courage and Cloth: Winning the Fight for a Woman's Right to Vote*** by Ann Bausum (ages 10+)

Chronicles the story of the women's suffrage movement in America, using compelling period photographs—including some never before published—to illustrate the vivid narrative.

## 9TH-12TH GRADE BOOKS, ARTICLES AND FILMS

***A Woman's Crusade: Alice Paul and the Battle for the Ballot*** by Mary Walton

With her daring and unconventional tactics, Alice Paul eventually succeeded in forcing President Woodrow Wilson and a reluctant U.S. Congress to pass the 19th Amendment. Here is the inspiring story of the young woman whose dedication to women's rights made that dream a reality.

***Hoosiers and the American Story*** by James H. Madison and Lee Ann Sandweiss

Middle and high school textbook focusing on people and events that makeup the Hoosier story.

***Indiana's 200: The People Who Shaped the Hoosier State*** by Linda C. Gugin and James E. St. Claire

Written by historians, scholars, biographers, and independent researchers, the biographical essays will enhance the public's knowledge and appreciation of those who made a difference in the lives of Hoosiers, the country, and even the world.

***Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony: A Friendship that Changed the World*** by Penny Colman (ages 12-18)

In the Spring of 1851 two women met on the street corner in Seneca Falls, New York—Elizabeth Cady Stanton, a thirty-five-year-old mother of four boys, and Susan B. Anthony, a thirty-one-year-old, unmarried, former school teacher.

***The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*** by Elaine Weiss

Following a handful of remarkable women who left their respective forces into battle, this book is an inspiring story of activists winning their own freedom in one of the last campaigns forged in the shadow of the Civil War, and the beginning of the great 20th century battles for civil rights.

***Votes for Women!: American Suffragists and the Battle for the Ballot*** by Winifred Conkling (ages 12-16)

From Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who founded the suffrage movement at the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention, to Sojourner Truth and her famous "Ain't I a Woman?" speech, to Alice Paul, arrested and force-fed in prison, this is the story of the American women's suffrage movement and the private lives that fueled its leaders' dedication.

***Not For Ourselves Alone: The Story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton & Susan B. Anthony*** (2005)

Ken Burns directed this PBS documentary on two of the pioneering figures in the women's rights movement.

***One Woman, One Vote*** (1995)

This PBS program documents the struggle which culminated in the passing of the 19th Amendment in the U.S. Senate by one vote. Witness the 70-year struggle for women's suffrage and discover why the crusaders faced entrenched opposition from men and women who feared the women's vote would ignite a social revolution.

***She's Beautiful When She's Angry*** (2016)

A provocative, rousing and often humorous account of the birth of the modern women's liberation movement in the late 1960s through to its contemporary manifestations in the new millennium, direct from the women who lived it.

[\*\*A Brief History of Indiana's Female Legislators\*\*](#) Capitol & Washington: Indiana Political History Database, Nov. 14, 2018.

[\*\*"A Petty Affair: Grace Julian Clarke and the 1915 Campaign for the Indiana General Federation of Women's Clubs Presidency"\*\*](#) Blog post from Indiana Historical Bureau on a Hoosier suffragists and their conflicting ideals related to temperance and suffrage.

[\*\*Destination Indiana\*\*](#) Women at Work Journey

[\*\*Destination Indiana\*\*](#) Women's Suffrage 1850-1920 Journey

[\*\*Destination Indiana\*\*](#) Women's Suffrage 1920 to Present Journey

[\*\*Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History\*\*](#) Winter 2000, Volume 12, Number 1

[\*\*Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History\*\*](#) Spring 2011, Volume 23, Number 2

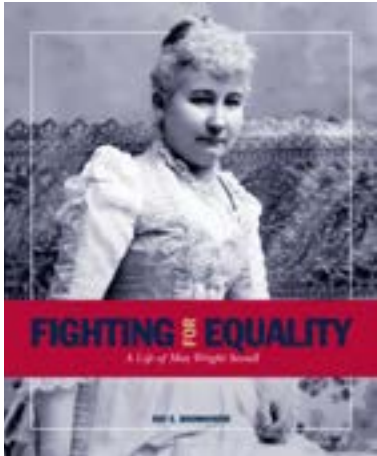
[\*\*"When the Suffrage Movement Sold Out to White Supremacy"\*\*](#) The New York Times, Feb. 2, 2019

[\*\*Women Historical Markers in Indiana\*\*](#) Markers recognize the statewide, national, or international significance of events, sites, and Indiana history.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### BOOK KITS

The Indiana State Library offers Storytime Kits with book sets suitable for classroom use. To peruse all available book sets and learn how to reserve a kit, visit <https://www.in.gov/library/kits.htm>. To honor the Indiana Women's Suffrage Centennial, we've added two titles:

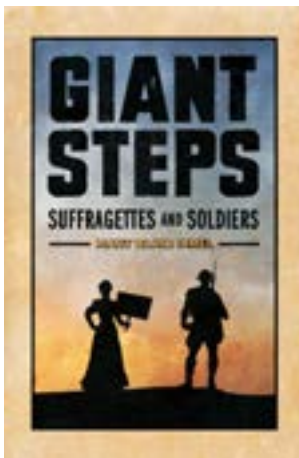


#### ***Fighting for Equality: A Life of May Wright Sewall***

By Ray E. Boomhower

Life of educator and women's rights and peace activist; grades 7-12. Indiana Historical Society Press, 2008.

[Free teacher guide available from Indiana Historical Society](#)



#### ***Giant Steps: Suffragettes and Soldiers***

By Mary Blair Immel

This novel for grades 3-7 follows the story of Bernie Epperson, age 13, in Lafayette, Indiana as she gets involved with the fight for women's rights during World War I. Indiana Historical Society Press, 2017.

## SPEAKERS BUREAU

Indiana Humanities is creating a speakers bureau of dynamic talks about suffrage and women's political participation in Indiana and around the country. Talks will be announced in the fall and applications will open for bookings in 2020.

Check the Indiana Women's Suffrage Centennial website for more information, or sign up to get the newsletter to be notified of when applications open.



## PRIMARY SOURCES



### **Title: Election Day Scene**

**Date: Circa 1900-1909**

Description: A pro-women's suffrage demonstration in Brookville, Indiana.

*Collection of Indiana Historical Society, P0468*



**Title: “Five Suffragists on Tour”**

**Date: Circa 1920-1922**

Description: During the final push for the 19th Amendment, suffragist leaders toured the country to drum up support. This photo depicts five of them, including two from Indiana, as they are at work with their luggage on a sidewalk during a tour of the western states. In the center is Mary Stuart Edwards of Peru, Indiana, who was president of the Woman’s Franchise League of Indiana from 1917-1919 during the final push to ratify the suffrage amendment. She then served as director for the National American Suffrage Association (1920-1921) and as the first vice president for the National League of Women Voters (1921-1923). Others in the group include Adah Bush of Indiana (seated left) and Mary McDowell of Chicago (second from the left).

*Courtesy of the Indiana State Library*



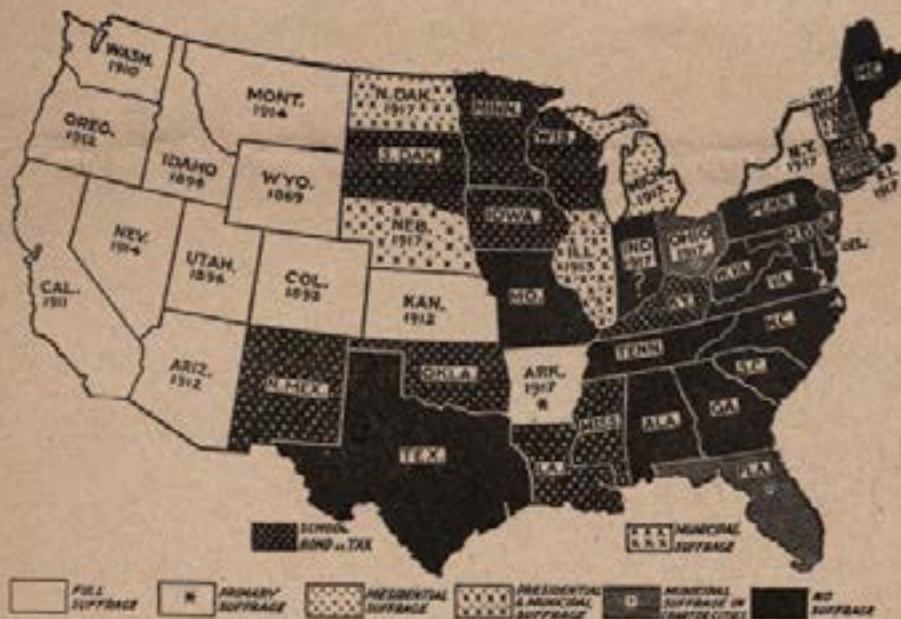
**Title: Postcard, Suffragettes in Hebron, Indiana**

**Date: Circa 1919**

Description: Porter County suffragists unfurl their "Votes for Women" banner as they parade in a horse-drawn wagon. Suffragists were especially active and well-organized in Porter County, where thousands of women registered to vote in the summer of 1917 before the state law that enabled them to vote in local elections was ruled unconstitutional.

*Collection of Indiana Historical Society, P0408*

# Woman Suffrage is Here!



Twelve states have Suffrage for women on equal terms with men.

Six other states have Presidential Suffrage for women, and in one additional state women vote in the primaries.

**These States Control 193 Electoral Votes**

NATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE PUBLISHING CO., INC.

171 Madison Avenue

New York City

Printed February, 1918



**M0612\_BOX2\_FOLDER15\_WOMAN\_SUFFRAGE\_IS\_HERE**

**Title: "Woman Suffrage Is Here!"**

**Date: Circa 1918**

Description: The map shows which states have granted women the right to vote in all elections and which have granted the right to vote in presidential elections. Indiana is shown with a question mark.

Collection of Indiana Historical Society, M0612



# ARE YOU WITH US?

## *Are you awake*

to the fact that 14,000,000 women throughout the world have been enfranchised in war time?

## *Are you aware*

that the women of nineteen states can vote for the President of the United States?

## *Are you alive*

to the enormous demand of the women of this state who in large numbers are petitioning for the vote?

## *Are you ready*

to fight in this great war for democracy?

**SIGN THE PETITION**

**Support the Federal Suffrage Amendment.**

---

NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

171 Madison Avenue



New York City

Printed July 1918

**M0612\_BOX2\_FOLDER15\_ARE\_YOU\_WITH\_US**

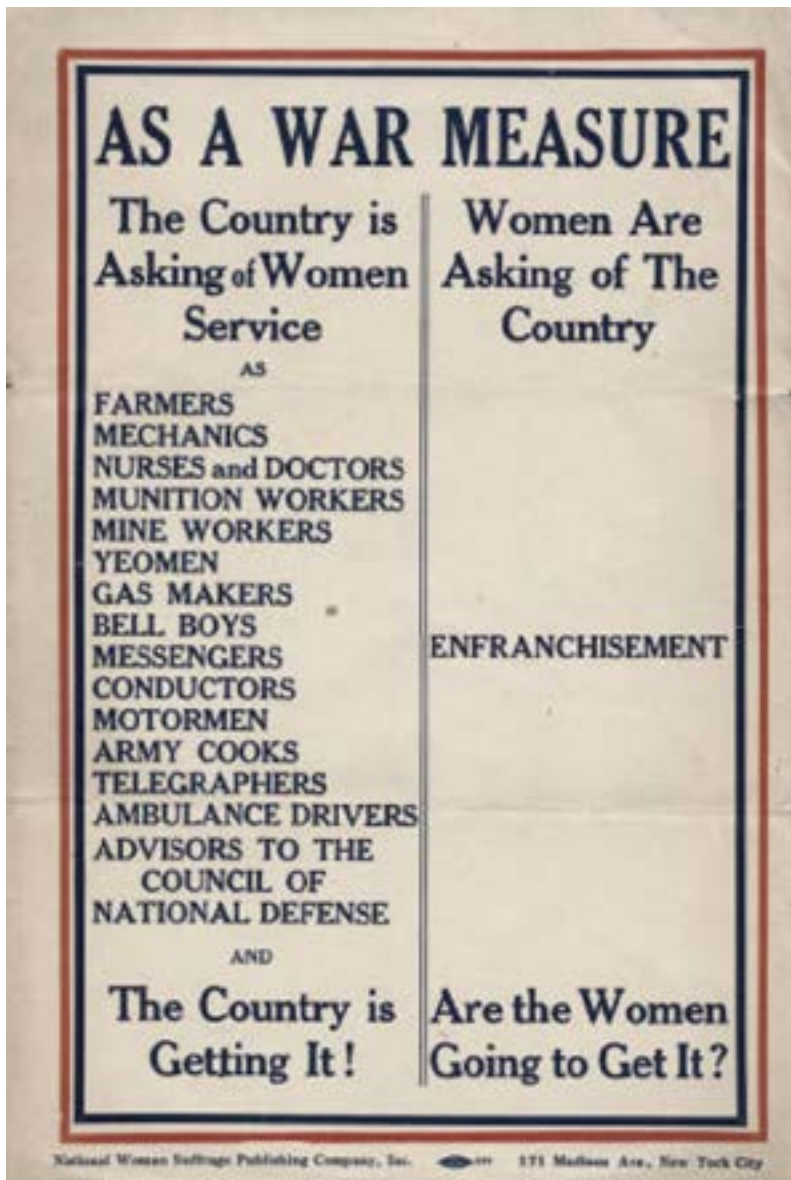
**Title: "Are You With Us?"**

**Date: Circa 1918**

Description: Promotional leaflet encouraging people to sign the petition for the Federal Suffrage Amendment, which when ratified became the 19th Amendment.

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M0612\_BOX2\_FOLDER15\_AS\_A\_WAR\_MEASURE

**Title: "As a War Measure"**

**Date: Circa 1910-1918**

Description: This pamphlet lists how women are helping the country during World War I and what they hope to receive in return.

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**Twenty-five** States have ratified the Federal Amendment. **Indiana makes 26**

**Sixteen** States have ratified by special session. **Indiana makes 17**  
(Five more special sessions have been called.)

**Seven** States have ratified by unanimous vote. **Let Indiana be 8**

**RATIFICATIONS TO DATE**

1. Illinois . . . . (June 10)	14. Nebraska . . . (July 31)
2. Wisconsin . . . (June 10)	15. Minnesota . . . (Sept. 8)
3. Michigan . . . . (June 10)	16. New Hampshire (Sept. 10)
4. Kansas . . . . (June 16)	17. Utah . . . . . (Sept. 30)
5. Ohio . . . . . (June 16)	18. California . . . (Nov. 1)
6. New York . . . . (June 16)	19. Maine . . . . . (Nov. 5)
7. Pennsylvania . . (June 24)	20. North Dakota . (Dec. 1)
8. Massachusetts . . (June 25)	21. South Dakota . (Dec. 4)
9. Texas . . . . . (June 28)	22. Colorado . . . . (Dec. 12)
10. Iowa . . . . . (July 2)	23. Rhode Island . . (Jan. 6)
11. Missouri . . . . . (July 3)	24. Kentucky . . . . (Jan. 6)
12. Arkansas . . . . (July 28)	25. Oregon . . . . . (Jan. 12)
13. Montana . . . . (July 30)	

**Michigan did it in fifteen minutes—  
Unanimous votes in both houses.**

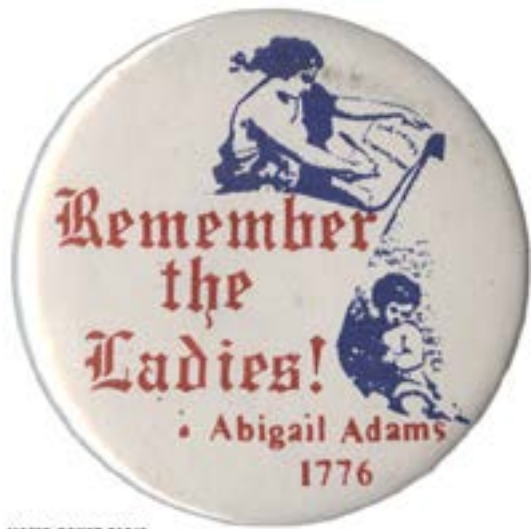
**M0612\_BOX2\_FOLDER15\_AS\_A\_WAR\_MEASURE**

**Title: “Leaflet Promoting the Suffrage Federal Amendment”**

**Date: Circa 1920**

Description: This leaflet promotes holding a special session of the Indiana General Assembly to ratify the 19th Amendment.

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MO583\_BOX57\_R1240  
**MO583\_BOX57\_R1240**

**Title: “Remember the Ladies! Abigail Adams 1776 Button”**

**Date: Circa 1970**

Description: Many lobbied for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in the 1970s. Indiana was the last state to ratify it in 1977. However, since the ERA failed to be ratified by the required 38 states, it failed. The National Organization for Women, which pushed for the ERA's ratification, produced this button quoting Abigail Adams's famous message to her husband from the Revolutionary War period.

*Collection of Indiana Historical Society*



**M0583\_COLOR\_PHOTOGRAPHS\_BOX15\_FOLDER20**

**Title: “NOW Rally in Indianapolis”**

**Date: 1970-1979**

Description: The National Organization of Women (NOW) was founded in 1966 in an effort to combat discrimination against women and to promote equality for women in all aspects of American society. Indiana’s first chapter was organized in Muncie in 1970. This photo was taken at a demonstration in Indianapolis.

*Collection of Indiana Historical Society, M0583*