

Winning the Vote

Imagine if boys made all the rules. That's how it was in 1776, when the United States was founded. Women were not allowed to vote until 1920! This year [2012] is the 92nd anniversary of that important event.



Library of Congress, George Grantham Bain Collection

Thousands of women marched in New York City for the right to vote.

The women's suffrage movement began in the 1800s. Suffrage is the right to vote. To win this right, women held protests and marches. Hundreds of those women were arrested and jailed.

Women's groups across the country are honoring those who fought for this right with special events throughout the year. "Learning how women's actions changed America is important. It encourages us to understand that we can make a better world," said Molly Murphy MacGregor, the president of the National Women's History Project.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. When did the women's suffrage movement begin?

- A. 1700s
- B. 1800s
- C. 1600s
- D. 1900s

2. How does the author introduce the idea of women's suffrage?

- A. by arguing that men have tried to keep women out of politics for centuries
- B. by quoting Molly Murphy MacGregor, the president of the National Women's History Project
- C. by providing a simple definition of women's suffrage
- D. by asking readers to imagine what life was like before women's suffrage

3. Which conclusion about 1776 is supported by the passage?

- A. In 1776 women protested for the right to vote.
- B. In 1776 women protested against the United States.
- C. In 1776, women did not have the same rights as men.
- D. In 1776 women held marches.

4. Read the following sentences and answer the question below:

"The women's suffrage movement began in the 1800s. Suffrage is the right to vote. To win this right, women held protests and marches. Hundreds of those women were arrested and jailed."

What does the word "**movement**" mean as used in this text?

- A. people acting together
- B. people exercising
- C. people voting together
- D. people ruling others

5. Which statement supports the main idea of the passage?

- A. Hundreds of women were arrested and jailed.
- B. Suffrage is the right to vote.
- C. Women in the U.S. won the right to vote after years of struggle.
- D. Women's groups honor those who fought for women's suffrage.

6. In what year were women in the U.S. finally allowed to vote?

7. What can you tell about the position of men in America in 1776? Use information from the text to support your answer.

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Men were the only ones who could vote _____ women earned the right.

- A. earlier
- B. until
- C. first
- D. thus

9. **Vocabulary Word:** right: something allowed by law.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: