



## 19th Amendment and the History of Women's Suffrage

Winnebago County State's Attorney Marilyn Hite Ross  
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# 1861-1865

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- During the Civil War, efforts for the suffrage movement come to a halt. Women put their energies toward the war effort.

# 1866

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- Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony form the American Equal Rights Association, an organization dedicated to the goal of suffrage for all regardless of gender or race.

# 1867



Title: Executive Committee of the National Woman's Suffrage Association; Source: Spartacus Educational

The division within the movement took an especially ugly turn in 1867 when two [referendums](#) were put on the ballot in Kansas. One gave the vote to African American men; one gave the vote to women. Although the AERA was still in existence and on paper the group supported both measures, they were deeply divided.

# 1869

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- The American Equal Rights Association is wrecked by disagreements over the Fourteenth Amendment and the question of whether to support the proposed Fifteenth Amendment which would enfranchise Black American males while avoiding the question of woman suffrage entirely.

# Elizabeth Cady Stanton & Susan B. Anthony



# 1870

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- The Fifteenth Amendment gave black men the right to vote. NWSA refused to work for its ratification and instead the members advocate for a Sixteenth Amendment that would dictate universal suffrage. Frederick Douglass broke with Stanton and Anthony over the position of NWSA.
- The *Woman's Journal* is founded and edited by Mary Livermore, Lucy Stone, and Henry Blackwell.

# 1878

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- A Woman Suffrage Amendment is proposed in the U.S. Congress. When the 19th Amendment passes forty-one years later, it is worded exactly the same as this 1878 Amendment.



# 1887

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- The first vote on woman suffrage is taken in the Senate and is defeated.

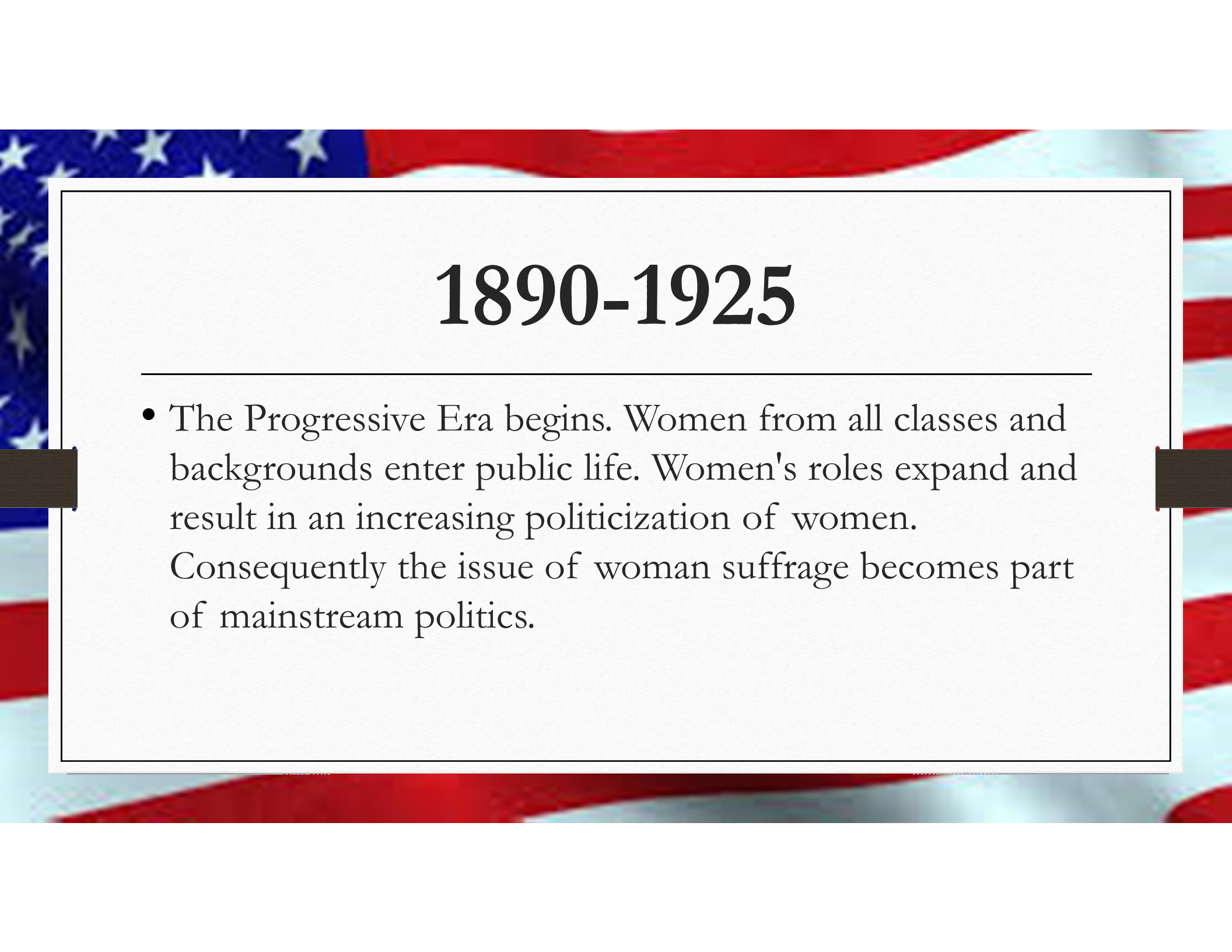
# 1890

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- NWSA and AWSA merge and the National American Woman Suffrage Association is formed. Stanton is the first president. The Movement focuses efforts on securing suffrage at the state level.
- Wyoming is admitted to the Union with a state constitution granting woman suffrage.
- The American Federation of Labor declares support for woman suffrage.
- The South Dakota campaign for woman suffrage loses.



By Internet Archive Book Images – [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:History\\_of\\_Woman\\_suffrage\\_\(1881\)\\_14778322302.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:History_of_Woman_suffrage_(1881)_14778322302.jpg),

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# 1890-1925

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- The Progressive Era begins. Women from all classes and backgrounds enter public life. Women's roles expand and result in an increasing politicization of women. Consequently the issue of woman suffrage becomes part of mainstream politics.

# 1894

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- 600,000 signatures are presented to the New York State Constitutional Convention in a failed effort to bring a woman suffrage amendment to the voters.

# 1895

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- Elizabeth Cady Stanton publishes *The Woman's Bible*. After its publication, NAWSA moves to distance itself from Stanton because many conservative suffragists considered her to be too radical and, thus, potentially damaging to the suffrage campaign.

# 1896

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- Mary Church Terrell, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, and Frances E.W. Harper among others found the the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs.
- Utah joins the Union with full suffrage for women.
- Idaho adopts woman suffrage.

# National Association of Colored Women 1896





# 1913

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- In 1913, suffragists organized a parade down Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. The parade was the first major suffrage spectacle organized by the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA).
- The two women then organized the Congressional Union, later known as the National Women's Party (1916). They borrowed strategies from the radical Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in England.

# 1917



- Photograph, "Bastille Day spells prison for sixteen suffragettes who picketed the White House" July 19, 1917

# 1917

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- New York women gain suffrage.
- Arkansas women are allowed to vote in primary elections.
- National Woman's Party picketers appear in front of the White House holding two banners, "Mr. President, What Will You Do For Woman Suffrage?" and "How Long Must Women Wait for Liberty?"
- Jeannette Rankin of Montana, the first woman elected to Congress, is formally seated in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Alice Paul, leader of the National Woman's Party, was put in solitary confinement in the mental ward of the prison as a way to "break" her will and to undermine her credibility with the public.
- In June, arrests of the National Woman's party picketers begin on charges of obstructing sidewalk traffic. Subsequent picketers are sentenced to up to six months in jail. In November, the government unconditionally releases the picketers in response to public outcry and an inability to stop National Woman's Party picketers' hunger strike.

# 1918

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- Representative Rankin opens debate on a suffrage amendment in the House. The amendment passes. The amendment fails to win the required two thirds majority in the Senate.
- Michigan, South Dakota, and Oklahoma adopt woman suffrage.
- President Woodrow Wilson states his support for a federal woman suffrage amendment.
- President Wilson addresses the Senate about adopting woman suffrage at the end of World War I.

# 1919

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- The Senate finally passes the Nineteenth Amendment and the ratification process begins.

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# August 26, 1920

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- Three quarters of the state legislatures ratify the Nineteenth Amendment.
- **American Women win full voting rights.**

H. J. Res. 1.

**Sixty-sixth Congress of the United States of America;  
At the First Session,**

Began and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the nineteenth day of May,  
one thousand nine hundred and nineteen.

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage  
to women.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States  
of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein),  
That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution,  
which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when  
ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States.*

**"ARTICLE"**

"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 sex.

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate  
legislation."

*J. H. Seelye*

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

*Thos. R. Marshall*

Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.



## Questions & Answers

### Thank you

- Winnebago County State's Attorney Marilyn Hite Ross  
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# Sources

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- History.com
- Wikipedia
- National Women's Suffrage Association

