

L2 1-Historical Context: *You may or may not remember that as the colonies of America fought for revolution beginning in 1776, leaders in each colony met to begin developing a government for their new country. John Adams, the first Vice President and second president of the United States was one of those delegates who debated with other state leaders about our government. Abigail was his wife. They had a very close, respectful relationship.*

Vocabulary to help you understand the letters.

Independency= To declare independence from England.

Tyrants= Cruel oppressive ruler.

Foment= promote the development or growth of something.

Indignity=treatment or circumstances that cause one to feel shame

Impunity=exemption from punishment or freedom from the

injurious= consequences of an action.

Abhor= regard with disgust and hatred.

MARCH 31, 1776 -

ABIGAIL ADAMS TO JOHN ADAMS

"I long to hear that you have declared an independency. And, by the way, in the new code of laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make, I desire you would remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors.

"Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands.

"Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation.

"That your sex are naturally tyrannical is a truth so thoroughly established as to admit of no dispute; but such of you as wish to be happy willingly give up -- the harsh tide of master for the more tender and endearing one of friend.

"Why, then, not put it out of the power of the vicious and the lawless to use us with cruelty and indignity with impunity?

"Men of sense in all ages abhor those customs which treat us only as the (servants) of your sex; regard us then as being placed by Providence under your protection, and in imitation of the Supreme Being make use of that power only for our happiness."

John Adam's response was not too promising, and Abigail wrote to him again.

Arbitrary= Random choice or personal whim.

Maxims= Short statement of general truth.

MAY 7, 1776

ABIGAIL ADAMS TO JOHN ADAMS

"I cannot say that I think you are very generous to the ladies; for, whilst you are proclaiming peace and good-will to men, emancipating all nations, you insist upon retaining an absolute power over wives.

"But you must remember that arbitrary power is like most other things which are very hard, very liable to be broken; and, notwithstanding all your wise laws and maxims, we have it in our power, not only to free ourselves, but to subdue our masters, and without violence, throw both your natural and legal authority at our feet."

Focused annotations:

What does Abigail want from John?

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Why is Abigail asking John to remember the ladies?

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How has Abigail's attitude changed from the 1st letter? Underline proof of your statement.

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L2 2-Historical Context: You may or may not remember that men and women in America fought for the abolition of slavery prior to emancipation of slaves during the Civil War. The Civil War diverted attention away from women's rights, and focused more on slavery abolition. Many of the same people were also fighting for women's equality rights in the United States. One of these women was Sojourner Truth. Sojourner Truth escaped slavery in 1826 and devoted her life to the abolitionist cause. She also advocated for universal suffrage.

Sojourner Truth (1797-1883): Ain't I A Woman?

Delivered 1851
Women's Convention, Akron, Ohio

Well, children, where there is so much racket there must be something out of kilter [harmony]. I think that '...the negroes of the South and the women at the North, all talking about rights, the white men will be in a fix pretty soon. But what's all this here talking about?

That man over there says that women need to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. *Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place!* **And ain't I a woman?** Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head [beat] me! **And ain't I a woman?** I could work as much and eat as much as a man - when I could get it - and bear the lash as well! **And ain't I a woman?** I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! **And ain't I a woman?**

Then they talk about this thing in the head; what's this they call it? [member of audience whispers, "intellect"] That's it, honey. What's that got to do with women's rights or negroes' rights? If my cup won't hold but a pint, and yours holds a quart, wouldn't you be mean not to let me have my little half measure full?

Then that little man in black there, he says women can't have as much rights as men, 'cause Christ wasn't a woman! Where did your Christ come from? Where did your Christ come from? **From God and a woman!** Man had nothing to do with Him. If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them. Obligated to you for hearing me, and now old Sojourner ain't got

Focused annotations:
Write your answers in your own words, underline proof in text.

Why is Sojourner angry?
Underline your proof.

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What does Sojourner want?
Underline your proof.

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What evidence does Sojourner use to show women deserve suffrage just like as white men?
Underline your proof.

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L2 3-Historical Context: You may or may not remember that after the Civil War, the 15th Amendment to the Constitution gave suffrage to all citizens in America. However, this was interpreted as only male citizens. With the war's end, and the passing of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments, many women re-focused their attention on attaining women's suffrage again. Susan B. Anthony was one of the founders of the women's movement for suffrage and used civil disobedience to prove her point.

Susan B. Anthony tried to vote in the 1872 presidential election. She was arrested for casting an illegal vote, tried, convicted, and fined \$100 but refused to pay.

Friends and fellow citizens: I stand before you tonight under indictment for the alleged crime of having voted at the last presidential election, without having a lawful right to vote. It shall be my work this evening to prove to you that in thus voting, I not only committed no crime, but, instead, simply exercised my citizen's rights, guaranteed to me and all United States citizens by the National Constitution, beyond the power of any state to deny.

The preamble of the Federal Constitution says:
"We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity[future generations], do ordain [order] and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

It was **we**, the people; not we, the white male citizens; nor yet we, the male citizens; but we, the *whole people*, who formed the Union. And we formed it, not to give the blessings of liberty, but to secure them; not to the half of ourselves and the half of our posterity, but to the whole people - women as well as men. And it is a downright mockery to talk to women of their enjoyment of the blessings of liberty while they are denied the use of the only means of securing them provided by this democratic-republican government - the ballot.

To them, women, this government has no just powers derived from the consent of the governed. To them this government is not a democracy. It is not a republic. It is an odious aristocracy; a hateful oligarchy, *or rule by few*, of sex; the most hateful aristocracy ever established on the face of the globe; an oligarchy of wealth, where the rich govern the poor. An oligarchy of learning, where the educated govern the ignorant, or even an oligarchy of race, where the Saxon rules the African, might be endured; but this oligarchy of sex, which makes father, brothers, husband, sons, the oligarchs over the mother and sisters, the wife and daughters, of every household - which ordains all men sovereigns, all women subjects, carries dissension, discord, and rebellion into every home of the nation.

**Focused annotations:
Write your answers in your own words, underline proof in text.**

**Why is Susan giving this speech?
Underline your proof.**

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**What document is she using as evidence for her claim?
Underline your proof.**

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**Explain her point of view regarding rights of citizens.
Underline your proof.**

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How does she use her evidence against her accusers?

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Fill in the graphic organizer and

L3 answer the questions in your Support booklet.
Activity sheets 4-7

Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902)

Elizabeth Cady Stanton was born in Johnstown, New York, the daughter of Margaret and Judge Daniel Cady. She married Henry B. Stanton in 1840, the same year they attended the Anti-Slavery Convention in London, England. She and Henry had seven children. Cady Stanton worked tirelessly for women's rights. In 1869, Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony founded the National Woman Suffrage Association, which was dedicated to seeing that women in the United States were granted voting rights. Cady Stanton served as the organization's president until 1890.



Frederick Douglass (1818-1895)

Douglass was born Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey as a slave in Tuckahoe, Maryland. Douglass escaped to the North and became one of the most eloquent voices in American history to speak about the evils of slavery. Douglass founded the anti-slavery newspaper *The North Star* in 1847. While many newspapers derided the Seneca Falls Convention, *The North Star* did not. Frederick Douglass not only attended the Seneca Falls Convention but was one of 32 men to sign the Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions.

Lucretia Coffin Mott (1793-1880)

Lucretia Mott was an outspoken opponent of slavery and had gained a reputation as an eloquent public speaker. Mott was born in Nantucket, Massachusetts, and raised a Quaker. Mott met Elizabeth Cady Stanton in London at an Anti-Slavery Convention. Both women were incensed that they were not seated as delegates because they were women. They vowed to fight for women's rights as a result of that meeting. Mott was one of five women who called for a Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls.

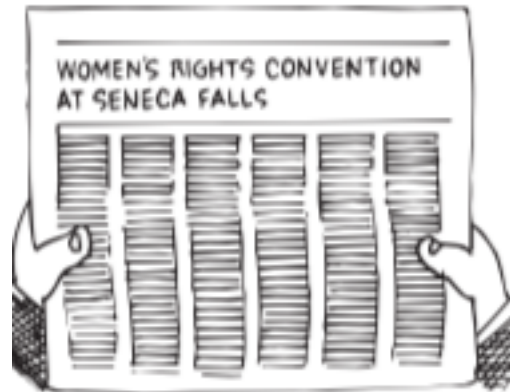




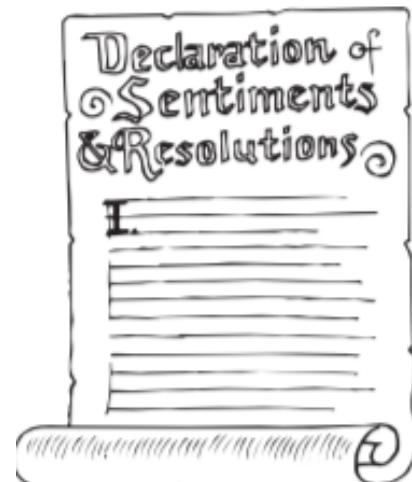
Now eight years later the group gathered socially. As they talked, Stanton led the group in a rousing discussion about the inequality of treatment of women. At the tea, the women there decided to call for a convention to address the condition of rights for women.

The women placed the following ad for their convention in the *Seneca County Courier*: "WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION—A Convention to discuss the social, civil and religious condition and rights of women, will be held in the Wesleyan Chapel, at Seneca Falls,

Now that the ad was placed, the group set about preparing for the meeting which was only a few days away. Cady Stanton drafted the Declaration of Sentiments, which was to be read at the convention. The document was modeled after the Declaration of Independence. Instead of listing specific grievances against the king, however, the document listed the grievances against "he." And instead



of saying "all men are created equal" the Declaration of Sentiments said, "all men and women are created equal." But the part that proved explosive was the call for women to have the vote. Even some of the women in the group thought that would cause others not to take the convention seriously. Cady Stanton's own husband wanted that portion stricken from the document, but Elizabeth refused. Henry left town during the convention.



Declaration of Independence

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776

The Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America

1 When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal Station 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 which impel them to the separation.

2 We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed,—That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.—Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

3 -He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

-He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

-He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

He has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their Public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and Convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

He has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People and eat out their Substance.

He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies without the consent of our Legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the World:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.

He is, at this Time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

Nor have we been wanting in Attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time of Attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace, Friends.

4 We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great-Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do.—And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

Signed by 56 delegates who were representatives of all of the original 13 colonies.

The Declaration of Sentiments (1848) Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott

1 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 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.

2 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; that to secure these rights governments are instituted, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. Whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of those who suffer from it to refuse allegiance to it, and to insist upon the institution of a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their duty to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of the women under this government, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to demand the equal station to which they are entitled. The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman, having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman, having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

3 -He has never permitted her to exercise her inalienable right to the elective franchise. He has compelled her to submit to laws, in the formation of which she had no voice.

-He has withheld from her rights which are given to the most ignorant and degraded men—both natives and foreigners.

-Having deprived her of this first right of a citizen, the elective franchise, thereby leaving her without representation in the halls of legislation, he has oppressed her on all sides.

-He has made her, if married, in the eye of the law, civilly dead.

-He has taken from her all right in property, even to the wages she earns.

-He has made her, morally, an irresponsible being, as she can commit many crimes with impunity, provided they be done in the presence of her husband. In the covenant of marriage, she is compelled to promise obedience to her husband, he becoming, to all intents and purposes, her master—the law giving him power to deprive her of her liberty, and to administer chastisement.

-He has so framed the laws of divorce, as to what shall be the proper causes, and in case of separation, to whom the guardianship of the children shall be given, as to be wholly regardless of the happiness of women—the law, in all cases, going upon a false supposition of the supremacy of man, and giving all power into his hands.

-After depriving her of all rights as a married woman, if single, and the owner of property, he has taxed her to support a government which recognizes her only when her property can be made profitable to it.

-He has monopolized nearly all the profitable employments, and from those she is permitted to follow, she receives but a scanty remuneration. He closes against her all the avenues to wealth and distinction which he considers most honorable to himself. As a teacher of theology, medicine, or law, she is not known.

-He has denied her the facilities for obtaining a thorough education, all colleges being closed against her.

-He allows her in church, as well as state, but a subordinate position, claiming apostolic authority for her exclusion from the ministry, and, with some exceptions, from any public participation in the affairs of the church.

-He has created a false public sentiment by giving to the world a different code of morals for men and women, by which moral delinquencies which exclude women from society, are not only tolerated, but deemed of little account in man.

-He has usurped the prerogative of Jehovah himself, claiming it as his right to assign for her a sphere of action, when that belongs to her conscience and to her God.

-He has endeavored, in every way that he could, to destroy her confidence in her own powers, to lessen her self-respect, and to make her willing to lead a dependent and abject life.

4 Now, in view of this entire disfranchisement of one-half the people of this country, their social and religious degradation—in view of the unjust laws above mentioned, and because women do feel themselves aggrieved, oppressed, and fraudulently deprived of their most sacred rights, we insist that they have immediate admission to all the rights and privileges which belong to them as citizens of the United States.

Name: _____ Period: _____

Active Viewing Guide Questions: Iron Jawed Angels

Directions: Answer the following questions while watching the movie *Iron Jawed Angels*. Insert the DATE of viewing in the margin on the left.

1. Why do the leaders of the National American Woman’s Suffrage Association dislike the English suffragettes?
2. In what year does the movie begin?
3. Which two women took over NAWSA’s Congressional committee?
4. Why do the women factory workers change their mind and decide to come to the parade?
5. Why does Ida Wells Barnett from the Chicago delegation have a problem with the way the parade?
6. Why weren’t there any people to greet President Woodrow Wilson upon his arrival?
7. Why are Carrie Chapman Catt and Anna Shaw upset with Alice Paul’s tactics?
8. Why doesn’t Senator Leighton’s wife want to get too involved in the suffrage movement?
9. What does it mean when NAWSA suspends the Congressional Union to investigate unauthorized expenditures?
10. What is the purpose of the National Women’s Party?
11. How long had women been fighting for suffrage as they began to campaign state to state?
12. Wilson advocated for women to continue campaigning for suffrage state by state but refused to support a national amendment. Why do you think he made this distinction?
13. What happened to Inez Milholland?
14. Who won the presidential election of 1916?
15. What does the NWP start doing on January 10, 1917?

16. What are some ways that the men who work at the white house are trying to get rid of the female picketers stationed outside the white house?
17. Does NAWSA support the picketers?
18. What happens when the women picket once war has been declared?
19. What are the women who are arrested charged with?
20. Why won't the women pay the fine?
21. Why can Senator Leighton take his children from his wife?
22. When Alice Paul goes on the picket line, what does she do?
23. Why does Alice distinguish between President Wilson and the office of the presidency?
24. Why doesn't Alice understand what needs to be explained about being a suffragist?
25. What does President Wilson want to do with Alice Paul?
26. How does Alice get word to the others about what's happening to her?
27. Why does Emily Leighton say that she's staying in prison for the suffrage movement?
28. Why does Carrie Chapman Catt stand and allow Alice Paul to sit?
29. How many states have to agree before the amendment is put in the Constitution?
30. What state made the 19th amendment?

