

- (Re)forming the role of women in American society
 - Origins of Women's suffrage movement
 - turn of the century brought renewed effort for suffrage among middle-class women--especially those who saw uneducated men voting all the time
 - still, as late as 1910, women could only vote in four western states
 - the South and East coast states (w/exception of New York in 1917) held firm against women voting
 - organized efforts for suffrage
 - National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA)
 - led first by Susan B. Anthony
 - efforts focused on lobbying, organized marches and rallies, and informational efforts
 - most members were native-born, middle-class, urban whites (mainstream progressives)
 - stressed women's special "purity" and its impact on electoral process
 - Congressional Union (Woman's Party)
 - founded in 1913 and influenced by militancy of British suffragist movement
 - attempted to bring direct pressure on federal government to pass an amendment granting suffrage to women
 - Nineteenth Amendment
 - combined efforts of women's groups and their supporters led to 19th amendment being passed in 1919
 - ratified in 1920, women voted that year for first time nationwide
 - Challenges to the "private sphere" of women
 - Margaret Sanger--nurse who fought hard to get legalized birth control in N.Y.--was battled strongly by northeastern ministers
 - Emma Goldman--lectured nationwide on feminism and politics, also edited Mother Earth (a radical--some said anarchist--monthly magazine)
 - Despite challenges brought by these women, it would not be until the 1920s that large numbers of women in North really began to challenge existing mores of society
 - Women and politics in the 1920s
 - the promise of power in the 19th Amendment proved illusory to women during the 1920s
 - Women's movement splinters apart
 - some women's groups push for an equal rights amendment, while others viciously condemn it as putting women in unnatural positions
 - Jane Addams supports an international league promoting peace and freedom worldwide--she is condemned as a communist sympathizer
 - At same time, Supreme Court strikes down a number of child-labor laws and women's protective laws