

Women's Equality Day



“Our Right to Vote”

Women's Equality Day



"Our Right to Vote"

Did you know...?

In 1971, the U.S. Congress designated August 26th as “Women’s Equality Day.”

The date commemorates the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote.

Achieving this milestone required a lengthy and difficult struggle; victory took decades of agitation and protest.

Did you know...?

The observance of Women's Equality Day marks women's continuing efforts toward full equality.



Did you know...?

The 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote was introduced to Congress in 1878. Forty-one years later, it was passed by both houses of Congress on June 4, 1919, and was sent to the states for ratification.



19th Amendment

Several generations of woman suffrage supporters lectured, wrote, marched, lobbied, and practiced civil disobedience to achieve what many Americans considered a radical change to the Constitution.



Memorable Quotes

"There never will be complete equality until women themselves help to make laws and elect lawmakers."

Susan B. Anthony



Memorable Quotes

"The history of men's opposition to women's emancipation is more interesting perhaps than the story of that emancipation itself."

Virginia Woolf



Did you know...?

A number of states unwaveringly opposed the amendment.

It appeared the amendment might fail by one vote in the Tennessee house, but 24-year-old Harry Burns surprised observers by casting the deciding vote for ratification.



Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the amendment, achieving the two-thirds majority it needed to become law.

Did you know...?

At the time of his vote, Burns had a letter he received from his mother urging him, "don't forget to be a good boy" and "vote for suffrage."



19th Amendment

On August 26, 1920, Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby certified the amendment, forever changing the American electorate and the place of women in American society.



19th Amendment

The New York Times wrote shortly after the ratification, "Women in fighting for the vote have shown a passion of earnestness, a persistence, and above all a command of both tactics and strategy, which have amazed our master politicians. A new force has invaded public life."



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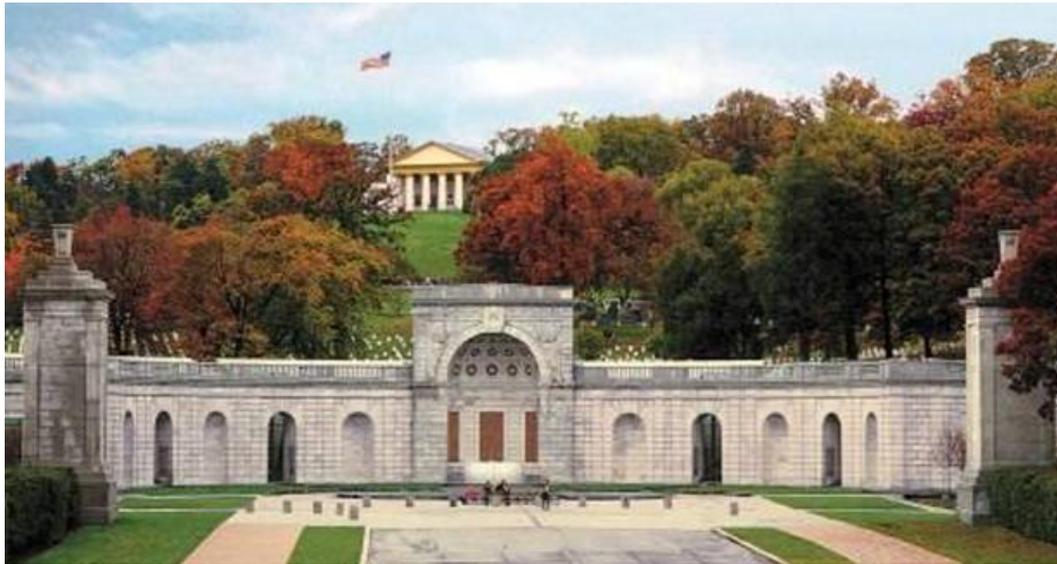


***"Let the generations know that
the women in uniform also
guaranteed their freedom."***

**Anne S. Brehm
1LT, USA NC,
World War II**

Did you know...?

The Women In Military Service For America Memorial is a unique, living memorial honoring the over 2.5 million military women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces in our nation's defense during all eras, across all services.



Culture Support Teams

Army Special Operations Command has deployed its first teams of female soldiers assigned to commando units in Afghanistan. The military assessed their performance as "off the charts."

The Army created a new avenue for women to serve with front-line combat units in specialized and covert missions.



Culture Support Teams

The Cultural Support Teams are attached to Special Forces and Ranger units to interface with the female population to gain vital intelligence and provide social outreach.



Why Seek Women's Equality?

Current research demonstrates that gender diversity helps societies perform better.

Governments also recognize that women's inclusion drives development, and acknowledges that achieving the national economic and development plans requires gender equality.

In addition, there is a strong correlation around the world between gender inequity and poverty: The greater the gender inequity, the greater the poverty.

Memorable Quotes



"Remember no one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

Eleanor Roosevelt

Why Seek Women's Equality?

Empowering women:

- Builds strong economies**
- Establishes more stable and just societies**
- Achieves internationally-agreed goals for development, sustainability, and human rights**
- Improves quality of life for women, men, families, and communities**
- Propels businesses' operations and goals**

Memorable Quotes



"Many persons have a wrong idea of what constitutes true happiness. It is not attained through self-gratification but through fidelity to a worthy purpose."

Helen Keller

Facts on Women's Equality

In 2010, 14 percent of Active Duty Forces to include the U.S. Coast Guard were women.

In 2010, 18 percent of Department of Defense reserve forces were women.

In 2010, 35 percent of the Department of Defense civilian force were women.



**For more information on demographics visit:
<http://www.deomi.org/E0EEOResources/DemographicReports.cfm>**

Facts on Women's Equality

Of the 122 million women age 16 years and over in the U.S., 72 million, or 59.2 percent, were labor force participants.



Facts on Women's Equality

Women comprised 46.8 percent of the total U.S. labor force and are projected to account for 46.9 percent of the labor force in 2018.



Sixty six million women were employed in the United States—74 percent of employed women worked on a full-time jobs, while 26 percent worked on a part-time basis.

Facts on Women's Equality

Over two million women are military Veterans.

In 2008, 11 percent of Veterans from the Afghanistan and Iraq military operations were women. These numbers are expected to keep rising. In fact, women are the fastest growing group of Veterans.



Facts on Women's Equality

"Women who stepped up were measured as citizens of the nation, not as women...This was a people's war, and everyone was in it,"
Colonel Oveta Culp Hobby, first commanding officer of the Women's Army Corps.



Facts on Women's Equality

According to Department of Labor's 2009 statistics and data, the median weekly earnings of women who were full-time wage and salary workers was \$657.00, or 80 percent of men's \$819.00.

When comparing the median weekly earnings of persons aged 16-24, young women earned 93 percent of what young men earned- \$424.00 and \$458.00, respectively.



Memorable Quotes



"Far away there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them, but I can look up and see their beauty, believe in them, and try to follow where they lead."

Louisa May Alcott

Memorable Quotes

"We've chosen the path to equality, don't let them turn us around."

**Geraldine Ferraro,
the first woman to be
nominated as Vice President of
the United States**



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