

International Women's Day Article

An article dedicated to women by students of IBDP 1 in honor of the 25th International Women's Day

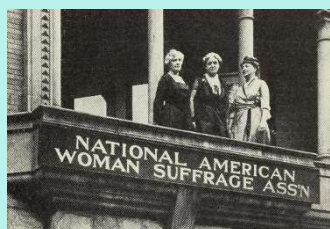
Women of the world want and deserve an equal future free from stigma, stereotypes and violence; a future that's sustainable, peaceful, with equal rights and opportunities for all. To get us there, the world needs women at every table where decisions are being made.

This year, the theme for International Women's Day (8 March), "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world," celebrates the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and highlights the gaps that remain.



Three most important moments in women history

1869: Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton found the National Woman Suffrage Association



As women all over the country struggled to win the right to vote in the U.S., two women came together to fight even harder. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony formed the National Woman Suffrage Association and gained priority to securing women the right to vote. By the beginning of the 20th century, a number of states started following suit in giving women suffrage.

August 18, 1920: Women win the right to vote

As we saw in our last historic movement, how women fought harder to gain the right to vote, this event marks the success of those struggles. After a 72-year-long fight, the 19th Amendment finally passed. On August 18, 1920, women's suffrage was ratified, granting women the right to vote in the U.S.



June 10, 1963: The Equal Pay Act passes

Despite long struggles, women faced inequality in the employment sector in regard to the payment they received, after long struggle this was brought to John F Kennedy and the Equal Pay Act was signed on June 10, 1963, by John F. Kennedy. It aimed to abolish the wage discrimination against women.

Three most Influential Women who fought Women's Rights



Maud Wood Park

Maud aided female voters by becoming the first president of 'League of Women Voters' and enforced a number of legislations to favor the rights of women in the society around 1918.



Rose Schneiderman

Rose worked extensively towards the needs of women during the post-suffrage movement. Moreover, in 1933, she became the first woman to be appointed on 'National Recovery Administration's Labor Advisory Board.

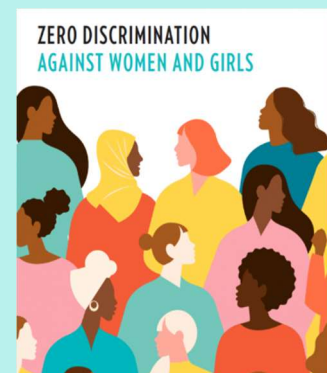


Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary was the first African women to fight for women's rights: she educated African women to be able to pass literacy tests for the government and founded the 'National Council of Negro' in 1935.

Speed-breaker to women empowerment: stereotyping

Moving beyond recognition that gender stereotyping is an obstacle to women's rights to lead a meaningful progress in empowering them. Discrimination against women includes those differences of treatment that exist because of stereotypical expectations, attitudes and behaviors towards women. It has been evident that due to the social construct of expectations from each gender (as typically masculine and feminine), women have been historically excluded, suppressed and exploited which very well advocates the need to end this cycle. Women cannot be categorized angels or demons, saints or fallen, brainless housewives or eccentric spinsters. This bipolar characterization is debunked by feminists.



Challenges faced by Women



When one speaks about gender equality and promotes women's rights, they are not just talking about women's interests but also the changes that women have fought for and made. These changes were beneficial to not only women but also the community. More than one in five women has experienced sexual harassment in the workplace. Women have half the retirement savings of men despite doing some of the country's most valuable caring work. Women are still not paid equally for work of equal value. And this gap is compounded by the fact that most workplaces operate with a view that men matter more.

To conclude, it feels nice to have a day to celebrate the achievements of women. Thus, on this international women's day, let us recognize the significance of women in our lives and on society and inspire them for greater future achievements. This day serves as a reminder of past struggles that the women have endured and the milestones, they have achieved in the last century to rise to this level in society, it also gives them high hopes for a brighter future.