

## Chapter Introduction

This chapter will focus on how reformers sought to solve the problems caused by industrialization, urbanization and immigration in the early 1900s.

- **Section 1:** The Drive for Reform
- **Section 2:** Women Make Progress
- **Section 3:** The Struggle Against Discrimination
- **Section 4:** Roosevelt's Square Deal
- **Section 5:** Wilson's New Freedom



## Objectives

- Analyze the impact of changes in women's education on women's roles in society.
- Explain what women did to win workers' rights and to improve family life.
- Evaluate the tactics women used to win passage of the Nineteenth Amendment.



## Terms and People

- **Florence Kelley** – founded the National Consumer's League known as the NCL
- **National Consumer's League (NCL)** – labeled and publicized “goods produced under fair, safe, and healthy working conditions”
- **temperance movement** – campaign to end the production, sale, and use of alcohol
- **Margaret Sanger** – opened the first birth control clinic
- **Ida B. Wells** – helped to found the National Association of Colored Women

## Terms and People (continued)

- **suffrage** – the right to vote
- **Carrie Chapman Catt** – president of the NAWSA, campaigned to pass women's suffrage at both the state and national levels
- **NAWSA** – National American Woman Suffrage Association
- **Alice Paul** – social activist, led women to picket at the White House
- **Nineteenth Amendment** – 1919, granted women the right to vote



## How did women of the Progressive Era make progress and win the right to vote?

In the early 1900s, many women were no longer content playing a limited role in society. Activists helped bring about Progressive reforms including women's suffrage.

Women would continue the struggle to expand their roles and rights in the future.

**By the early 1900s, a growing number of middle-class women wanted to do more than stay at home as wives and mothers.**

Colleges like Pennsylvania's Bryn Mawr and New York's School of Social Work **armed middle-class women with education and modern ideas.**



However, most **poor women continued to labor** long hours, often under dangerous or dirty conditions.

**Progressive reforms addressed working women's conditions:**

- They **worked long hours** in factories and sweatshops, or as maids, laundresses or servants.
- They were **paid less** and often didn't get to keep their wages.
- They were **intimidated and bullied** by employers.

**Reformers saw limiting the length of a woman's work day as an important goal and succeeded in several states.**

In *Muller v. Oregon*, the Supreme Court ruled that states could legally limit a women's work day.

This ruling recognized the unique role of women as mothers.





In 1899, **Florence Kelley** founded the Women's Trade Union League which worked for a federal minimum wage and a national eight-hour workday.



The WTUL also created the first workers' strike fund, which helped support families who refused to work in unsafe or unfair conditions.

Progressives supported the **temperance movement**.



They felt that alcohol often led men to spend their earnings on liquor, neglect their families, and abuse their wives.

The **Woman's Christian Temperance Union** grew steadily until the passage of the 18th Amendment which banned the sale and production of alcohol in 1919.

In 1916,  
**Margaret Sanger** opened the first birth control clinic. She believed that **having fewer children would lead to healthier women.**

She was jailed. The courts eventually ruled that doctors could give out family planning information.

In 1921,  
Sanger founded the **American Birth Control League** to make information available to women.

## African Americans also worked for women's rights.



- **Ida B. Wells** founded the **National Association of Colored Women** or NACW in 1896.
- The NACW supported day care centers for the children of working parents.
- Wells also worked for suffrage, to end lynchings, and to stop segregation in the Chicago schools.

Ultimately **suffrage** was seen as the only way to ensure that government protected children, fostered education, and supported family life.



Susan B. Anthony

Since the 1860s, **Susan B. Anthony** and **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** worked relentlessly for women's suffrage.

Still, by the 1890s, only Wyoming and Colorado allowed women to vote.

In 1917, social activists led by **Alice Paul** formed the **National Woman's Party**. Their radical actions made the suffrage movement's goals seem less dramatic by comparison.

The NWP picketed the White House.

Hundreds of suffragettes were arrested and jailed.



President of the National American Suffrage Association, **Carrie Chapman Catt**, promoted a two-part strategy to gain the vote for women.

- 1 **NAWSA** lobbied Congress for a constitutional amendment.
- 2 Supporters, called **suffragettes**, used the referendum process to pass state laws.

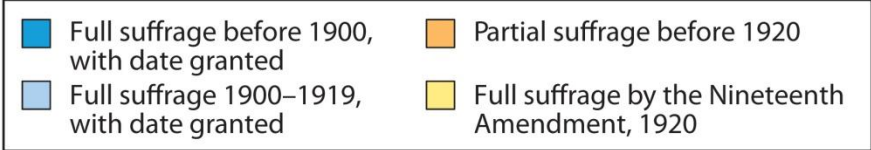
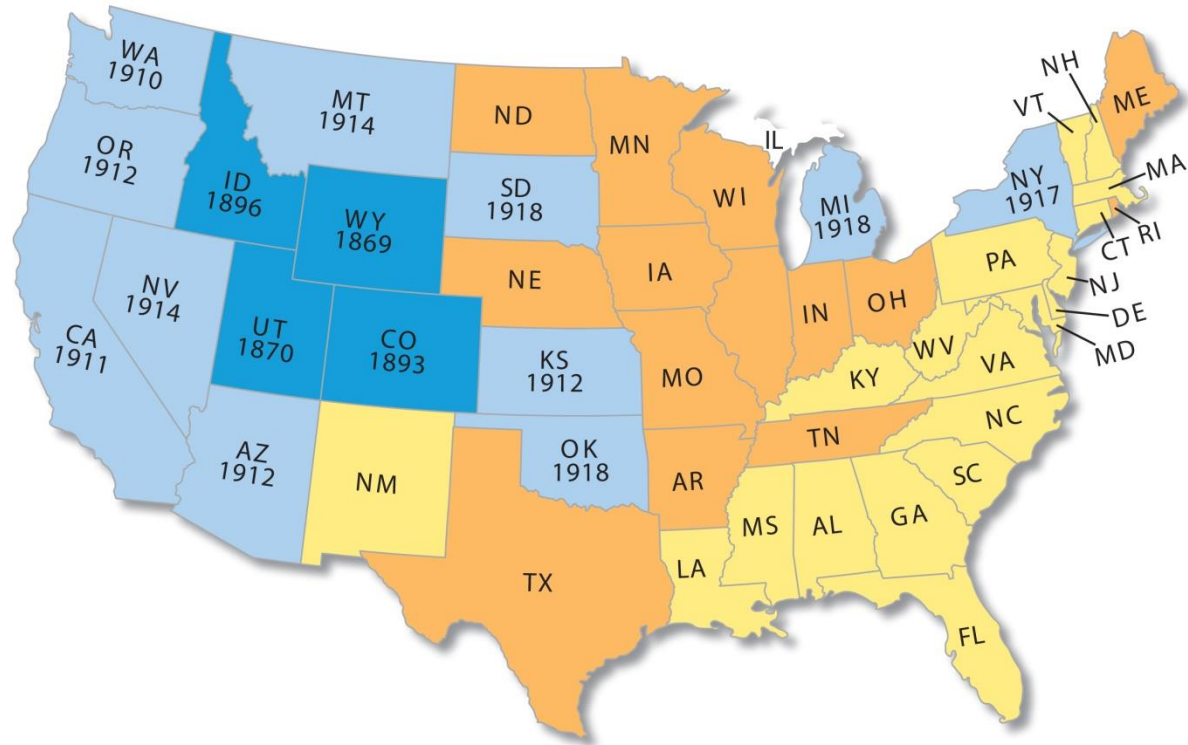
**Not all  
women  
supported  
suffrage.**

The National Association  
Opposed to Woman's Suffrage  
feared voting would distract  
women from their family roles.

Many men and women were  
offended by Paul's protests in  
front of the White House. A mob  
shredded her signs and pickets.



States gradually granted suffrage to women, starting in the western states.



In June 1919, the **Nineteenth Amendment** was passed by Congress. The amendment stated that the vote “**shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex.**”

In November 1920, women nationwide voted in a presidential election for the first time.

