

#3

Describe the factors that led to the women's rights movement of the 1830s – 1840s, the goals of that movement, and the success achieved in obtaining those goals during those years.

By Kate Petrik and Quinn Hainline

THESIS

There were several key factors that led to the women's rights movement of the 1830's and 1840's like the inability to vote, gender stereotypes etc. During this movement, American women worked towards gaining more general rights for women and gender equality as the campaigns for abolitionism and woman's rights emerged together and affected one another.

BODY PARAGRAPH #1

Topic Sentence- Since the beginning, women had always been viewed and placed lower than men in society. Some examples of a woman's status in the 19th century were:

Like black slaves, women-

- Could not vote
- Could be legally beaten with a "reasonable instrument"
- Could not retain title or property when married
- Legally regarded as perpetual minors
- If they worked- usually harsh conditions and grueling hours
- **REASONS WHY things were like they were-**
- Increasingly burgeoning economy was separating men and women into distinct economic roles
- Women thought of as physically and emotionally weak
- The home was a woman's "special sphere"
- Men were thought of as strong but crude and needed the gentle guidance of their loving ladies

BODY PARAGRAPH #2

Topic sentence- Fed up women began to gather strength as the century neared it's halfway point.

REFORM and leaders

- Elizabeth Cady Stanton- advocate for women's suffrage, mother of seven
- Susan B. Anthony- militant lecturer for women's rights "Suzy Bs"
- Lucretia Mott- Quaker who attended London's anti slavery convention of 1840
- Elizabeth Blackwell- pioneer in women's profession, first woman to graduate medical college
- Catharine Beecher- urged women to seek employment (especially as teachers)

BODY PARAGRAPH #3

GOALS

- the feminists of the 1830s and 40s all wanted equality between women and men.
- their goals were for women to be allowed basic rights that men had such as the rights to an education, to own property, to file for divorce, and some even suggested the right to vote.
- these women met at Seneca falls, NY and held a women's rights convention. At the convention they read a "declaration of sentiments," which proclaimed that "all men and women were created equal."

Accomplishments-

- initially, their success was slow because the movement was overshadowed by the anti slavery campaign in the period just before the civil war. Women were admitted to colleges here and there and even allowed to own property after marriage, but it was not until,after that the more modern women's rights movement took off.
- Women were being admitted to colleges
- Permitting wives to own property after marriage
- "Declaration of Sentiments" -----> Seneca Falls meeting to launch the women's rights movement

CONCLUSION

The women's rights movement of the 1830s and 40s initially started because of things like the antislavery campaign that was occurring at the time. The feminists worked toward equality between the genders and though they had slow initial success, this would lead to a modern and successful campaign for women's rights in the years to come.