

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 these years.

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# Thesis

During the wave of reform that swept the nation during the period between 1830 and 1840, the women's rights movement, which aimed to outline and grant the same status and opportunities to women as men, gained momentum and ultimately led to an initiation of several leaders and their groups to champion changes that would eventually influence movements later on.

# P 1: Factors that initiated the movement

Topic sentence: the period during and after the Second Great Awakening increasingly involved women and eventually initiated an atmosphere in which an era of reform for women's rights would take place.

- During this period of spiritual fervor, women became increasingly involved: majority of new church members, evangelicals preached about female worth, revived doctrines of faith in social reform. Thus, women turned to focus on not only saving themselves, but rest of society. Focused on forming organizations and championing for reform.
- Age of reform provided an opportunity for (middle class) women to escape the "cults of domesticity" and enter into public affairs
- Reform in education for males, coupled with prejudices against women pursuing education also spurred reform: clinging vine bride, too much learning injured the brain
- Moreover, increasing inequalities fed the fire: Ex, Lucretia Mott and female delegates not recognized at London anti slavery convention

# P 2: Goals of the movement

Topic sentence: the reform movement embodied ideals and goals of equality in politics, the workforce, and education.

- Advocated for suffrage: Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B Anthony,
- Advocated for more presence in the workforce and male dominated professions: Elizabeth Blackwell, Margret Fuller "the Dial"
- Better and more opportunities for education were primarily advocated by Emma Willard and Mary Lyon, who had established New York Female Seminary and Mount Holyoke Seminary respectively.
- Seneca Falls Convention (1848) declared the equality and rights of women in a Declaration of Sentiments that read "all men and women are created equal", thus setting one of the main goals of the reform and launched the movement into action.

# P 3: Successes attained

Topic sentence: although women's suffrage was not achieved until the twentieth century, the reform efforts made during this period also made several significant advances.

- Susan B Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton established the National Women's Suffrage Assoc. which aimed to achieving voting rights by congressional amendment to the constitution.
- Their efforts paid off in 1869 when Wyoming passed a law allowing women to serve as juries
- Women were getting admitted more and more into colleges. Their institutions began to attain more respect.
- Mississippi in 1839 permitted wives to own property after marriage