

Women Get Their Due...

- Women's contributions to war effort in WWI viewed by women as strong reason for getting voting rights
 - Social conditions for women were better in the 20th century
 - They began quest for the vote in 19th cent.
 - **14th Amendment** (1868) made African American **MEN** citizens
 - 1st time word "male" specifically used regarding citizenship
 - **15th Amendment** (1870) declared that **right to vote could not be denied based on race or color**
 - guaranteed suffrage to all male citizens
 - Gender was not specifically mentioned
 - **Both amendments ignored women - they were justly angry**
 - By 1890, prominent activists formed the **National American Woman Suffrage Association**
 - Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Julia Ward Howe
 - Fought on local, state, and finally federal level to win vote
 - Those who didn't want women voting had variety of reasons
 - Most thought women should be seen & not heard
 - Should be home with kids - voting would ruin families
 - Women were just being "uppity"
 - Liquor co's knew women would vote to outlaw liquor
 - The NAWSA was only partially successful
- **Women again pushed for the vote during WWI**
 - Picketed White House for nearly a year
 - Prez Wilson finally came out in favor of Anthony Amendment in Jan. 1918 - **House of Reps passed the Amendment Jan. 10, 1918**
 - **Doesn't pass Senate until Aug. 26, 1920**
 - **Becomes the 19th Amendment**
- **Women challenged traditional roles in other areas**
 - Clothing, hairstyles, makeup
 - Skirts shortened to above the knee - **shocking!**
 - Used to be full-length



- Short bob haircut gave women a "boyish" look
 - Sensible & neat but very untraditional
 - Changes were a way for women to express rebellion
 - "New" women called **flappers**
- 1920's women better educated and more politically savvy
 - Interested in bring about social reforms
 - Wanted more equality with men
 - **Some of the most controversial social issues emerged during this time**
 - **Margaret Sanger** - crusader for **birth control clinics**
 - Believed poor women caught in cycle of poverty because of too many children
 - Said options should be available
 - Opened first clinic in 1916
 - Arrested several times for violating fed **Comstock Law** prohibiting distribution of b.c. info
 - Still one of today's most controversial issues
 - **Women also ran for public offices, though usually unsuccessful**
 - Viewed as radicals
 - Able to win lower offices but nothing truly significant
 - **Women were beginning to enter traditionally male professions**
 - Law, medicine, finance, etc.
 - **General belief was still "woman's place is in the home"**
 - **Men earned more \$ than women**
 - **When women married, usually left their jobs**
 - **Women still make less \$ on avg. than men.**
 - Also charged more for services than men (hair styling, laundry, etc.)
 - Equality for women still not written into the Constitution
 - Equal Rights Amendment (1972) failed to be ratified
 - **Many more women are now in real power positions in business**
 - Also high political office
 - **But still no women presidents**
 - **The struggle continues**



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