

Women's History Resources

Encyclopædia Britannica Profiles
300 WOMEN WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

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For millennia, women have left their mark on the world, at times changing the course of history and at other times influencing small but significant spheres of life. Only in the past century, however, have concerted efforts been made to represent women's contributions more fully in history books. Consequently, changes in status for many women in modern times—the right to own property, to vote, and to choose their own careers—may obscure the accomplishments made by women of earlier eras. In selecting 300 influential women, Encyclopædia Britannica has included both contemporary women who are changing today's world and those whose contributions have endured through the ages.

Some, though they lived centuries ago, are still alive in popular culture; music and poetry by the Roman Catholic abbess [Hildegard](#) can be heard in contemporary recordings, and [Murasaki Shikibu's](#) *The Tale of Genji* is one of the greatest works of Japanese literature. Many women overcame the oppression of their surroundings through determination and ingenuity: [Harriet Tubman](#) escaped slavery and risked her life helping others to freedom. Other women

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Spotlight: 300 Women Who Changed the World

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 Feature: Women of Distinction in Georgia

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FEATURES

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Women of Distinction in Georgia

Women have made revolutionary strides in a variety of arenas since the beginning of Georgia's history. From Creek Indian interpreter Mary Musgrove, who was instrumental to the peaceful founding of the Georgia colony, to the modern-day humanitarian Rosalynn Carter, the contributions of Georgia women have helped to shape both the state and the nation. Many of these women, like Susie King Taylor, the first

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Annals of American History

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> **The Enfranchisement of Women, May, Samuel J., 1846**
 When the Reverend Samuel J. May delivered his sermon, "The Rights and Condition of Women," to his New York congregation on November 8, 1846, the movement for women's rights had not yet been organized. When it was organized, a few years later, the notion that the suffrage should be extended to women was disputed so hotly even among females that the movement almost failed at its inception. The ...

> **Women's Rights, Greeley, Horace, 1852**
 One of the most influential males in the crusade for women's rights was Horace Greeley. His newspaper, the New York Tribune, spoke out against the throngs of men who yelled insults and made jeering remarks at women speakers. Though not an advocate of woman suffrage, Greeley diligently tried to help women gain economic opportunities. The following letter of September 1, 1852, addressed to Paulina ...

> **Women in Corporate America, Schwartz, Felice N., 1987**
 In the 1970s and 1980s American business took on a new look with the rise and success of women managers.

Annals of American History

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March Spotlight: Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month, an annual celebration of women and their accomplishments. Spurred by the women's-rights movement of the 1960s, the observance was first held in March 1978 as Women's History Week. Nine years later, Congress expanded the observance to one month and declared March as Women's History Month. SIRS Discoverer pays tribute to Women's History Month by honoring women and their contributions to American and world history. Articles and Web sites include:

- [In Dad's Footsteps](#)
Scholastic News 56; Jan 11, 2010
- [Michelle Obama to Start Mentoring Program for Girls in Washington](#)
McClatchy Newspapers; Nov 1, 2009
- [Spinning Equations: Sofia Kovalevskay](#)
New Moon Girls; Nov 1, 2009
- [Amelia Earhart: The Legend of the Lost Aviator](#)
Language Arts; Nov 2009
- [3 Americans Share Nobel Medicine Prize](#)
Lincoln Courier; Oct 5, 2009

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LEADING ISSUES / Civil Rights / Women's Rights

Topic Overview

Civil rights are protections, privileges, freedoms, and powers that the government either provides its citizens or performs on their behalf. In the United States, some civil rights are protected by the U.S. Constitution. | more...

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PRO/CON ISSUES and Essential Questions

Should the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) be passed?

YES	NO
The ERA is needed to address the social and economic barriers women face.	The ERA is superfluous and would remove all gender distinctions from society.
The New Gender Gap	Marriage, Motherhood Account for Most of the Gender Pay Gap
U.S. Must Fulfill Promise of Women	The Politics of Sex
Gender Pay Gap Still a Yawning Chasm, but One That Pending Legislation Can Quickly Close	Are Women Responsible for Their Own Low Pay?

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