NATIONAL ARCHIVES TRAVELING EXHIBITS SERVICE

One Half of the People: Advancing Equality for Women

At the founding of our country, women's roles were rigidly defined and they were excluded from most of the rights and privileges of citizenship. Sometimes quietly, sometimes with a roar, women have redefined their roles and carved out a place for themselves in society and government. In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, "One Half of the People" explores the stories of women's struggles to achieve full citizenship. From the decades-long campaign for voting rights to expanding social and economic equality through legislation, see how those before us obtained the rights and privileges of citizenship promised to women today.

Om. aum Wheel of Wa We the undersigned formerly thing towing for the United States assenal at Philadelphias most respectfully remonstrate against the action of Col. Crossman, in tatting the work from, no and giving it to Contractors who will notpay rocyce on which we can live - many of us have husbands. fathers. sens & brothers news in the army and from whom we derived our support - deprived of that as we are our only mode of living was by sewing and we were able by unceasing exertions to barely live at the prices paid by the assenal - the Contractors who are speculators offer about fifty per centof the prices paid heretofie by the assenal -We respectfully ask your attention to our case we have all given Satisfaction in the work we have dure. then why should the governmentmoney be taken from the families of the por to ensich the wealthy speculatic intheat any gain to the government. Anna Long Maow " children Locuisa Bastian . 1.24 Merris . It Many Hametton 1673 Front At Housbout at 200



Exhibition Details

Content:

40-50 framed facsimile documents and photographs, text, graphic panels, and labels

Curator:

Jennifer N. Johnson, National Archives Traveling Exhibits Service (NATES)

Supplemental Materials:

Educational and promotional resources, including an education and resource guide, marketing resources, installation manual, and exhibit-related products through the National Archives Store.

Rental Fee: \$3,500 for 7-week display

Security Requirements:

Limited security and environmental controls

Shipping:

Exhibitor is responsible for all outgoing shipping costs

Size: 200-250 linear feet

Number of Crates: 3-5 (estimated)

Insurance: Insured by the National Archives

Tour Dates:

One Half of the People: Advancing Equality for Women will be available for tour 2019 through 2022. Dates are subject to change.

Project Status: In development

More About this Exhibition

Drawing on National Archives' records, "One Half of the People" will illustrate the involvement of American women to secure their essential citizenship rights.

Winning the Vote

First introduced in Congress in 1878, a woman suffrage amendment was continuously proposed for the next 41 years until it passed both houses of Congress in 1919 and was ratified by the states in 1920. The campaign for woman suffrage was long, difficult, and sometimes dramatic, yet ratification did not ensure full enfranchisement. Many women remained unable to vote long into the 20th century because of discriminatory laws.

After the Vote

Three years after the ratification of the 19th amendment, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) was initially proposed in Congress in an effort to secure full equality for women. It failed to achieve ratification, but women gradually achieved greater equality through legal victories that continued the effort to expand rights, including the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which ultimately codified the right to vote for all women.

Redefining Roles

From Civil War soldier Sara Emma Seeyle and an 1864 petition signed by seamstresses asking for better pay, to the creation of the WAVES, WACs, and WASPS in the 20th century and the millions of women who joined the workforce, discover some of the rich and diverse stories of women redefining the roles assumed of them.

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