

# Study Guide



## Chapter 14, Section 3

For use with textbook pages 425–428

### THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

#### KEY TERMS

**suffrage** The right to vote (page 426)

**coeducation** The teaching of boys and girls together (page 427)

#### DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

Do girls and boys in your family follow the same rules? Do girls and boys in your family have similar educational opportunities? Are the opinions of girls and boys in your family encouraged? Do girls and boys share equally in the chores and decision making?

In the last section, you read about the movement by abolitionists to end slavery in the United States. This section focuses on the progress toward equality made by the women's rights movement in the 1800s.

#### ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the chart below to help you take notes as you read the summaries that follow. Think about how women reformers worked to achieve their own rights.

#### Seneca Falls Convention of 1848

1.

2.

3.

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## Chapter 14, Section 3 (continued)



### READ TO LEARN

- **Women and Reform** (pages 425–427)

Many women abolitionists began to think of their own freedom as they worked to end slavery in the United States. They did not agree with the sexism, or prejudice against women, in the antislavery movement. They did not agree with American laws that discriminated against women. Lucretia Mott, a Quaker, lectured on temperance, peace, workers' rights, and abolition. She created the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society and helped runaway enslaved African Americans. Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, another female abolitionist, worked together for women's rights. They helped organize the first women's rights convention.

The Seneca Falls Convention, which was held in New York in 1848, issued a declaration that stated that all men and women are created equal. The declaration called for ending laws that discriminated against women. It demanded that women be allowed to work in male-dominated trades, professions, and businesses. The declaration called for woman *suffrage*, or the right to vote. Many convention delegates thought woman suffrage was too controversial. Elizabeth Stanton persisted until it was included in the declaration.

The convention marked the beginning of the women's rights movement in America. Many more conventions were held in the 1800s. Male and female reformers joined the struggle for women's rights. The first women's temperance association, Daughters of Temperance, was formed by Susan B. Anthony, the daughter of a Quaker abolitionist from New York. She worked for women's rights, temperance, and changes in New York property and divorce laws. She supported equal pay and college training for women, and *coeducation*, the education of boys and girls together. For the rest of the 1800s, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony led the women's movement. Eventually, several states allowed women to vote, beginning with Wyoming in 1890. In 1920 women throughout the United States had the right to vote.

1. Why was the Seneca Falls Convention important to the women's rights movement?

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## Chapter 14, Section 3 (continued)

- **Progress by American Women** (page 427–428)

In the 1800s women had few career choices. Women were limited by the expectations and social customs of the times. No university or college accepted women before the 1830s. Most Americans believed that an education would make women unhappy with their lives. Some Americans opposed teaching girls how to read and write. They believed women were too delicate to handle the stress of studying advanced subjects. Educational opportunities for women were limited to courses on becoming good wives and mothers. Female elementary school teachers were paid less than male teachers.

Female leaders helped create new opportunities for other women. Emma Willard founded the Troy Female Seminary in 1821. Willard was self-taught in many subjects, including science and mathematics. In 1837 Mary Lyons founded Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, which later became Mount Holyoke College, in Massachusetts. New property laws in several states recognized the right of women to own property after marriage. Previously, all property owned by women before marriage was transferred to their husbands after marriage. Women in several states won the right to divorce alcoholic husbands. Husbands and wives were granted joint guardianship of their children. Many bright, young women entered male-dominated professions. Many strong women struggled to achieve their goals.

**2.** Why were educational opportunities so important to the women's rights movement?

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