



Knowledge Organiser - The Changing Role of Women

Year 6 - History

Women's roles in society changed dramatically during the early 1900's, due to World War 1 and



Key Events:



Key Vocabulary	Definitions
arson	The act of deliberately setting fire to property with a view to causing extensive damage.
Cat and Mouse Act	Permitted suffragettes on hunger strike to be released but re-arrested once well again to complete their sentences.
constitutional	A peaceful, legal way of campaigning, often using recognised 'political' methods such as petitions.
enfranchisement	To be granted the vote or the state of having the vote.
force feeding	Imprisoned suffragettes on hunger strike were sometimes force fed. Being force fed involved a rubber tube being inserted into the throat or nose and liquidised food being poured in.
hunger strike	Some imprisoned suffragettes went on hunger strike to further raise awareness for their cause.
manifesto	A public declaration or proclamation, stating the aims and methods of a campaign group.
NUWSS	The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies was formed in 1897 and brought together small suffrage organisations.
suffrage	The right to vote in political elections.
suffragette	A campaigner for women's suffrage willing to undertake violent behaviour or break the law in pursuit of a political cause.
suffragist	A campaigner for women's suffrage who believes in constitutional methods of campaigning.
WSPU	Women's Social and Political Union formed by Emmeline Pankhurst.

1100	The law of coverture is enforced stating when a woman marries, she submits all her rights to her husband.
1660	Margaret Hughes becomes the first female actress.
1760	Industrial Revolution begins.
1897	NUWSS formed. Millicent Fawcett is leader.
1903	WSPU is formed by Emmeline Pankhurst.
1905	Militant campaign begins.
1913	Militant bomb and arson campaigns and increasing arrests which results in the passing of the Cat and Mouse Act .
1913	Emily Davison dies after jumping in front of the King's horse at Epsom race track four days earlier.
1914	World War I starts and suffragette leaders urge women to join the war effort.
1918	The Representation of the People Act is passed, allowing women over 30 and women over 21 who were married to a property owner.
1928	The Equal Franchise Act is passed which gives equal voting rights to men and women. All adults over the age of 21 can vote.
1970	The Equal Pay Act is passed which makes it illegal for women to be paid less than men for doing the same work.
1975	The Sex Discrimination Act is passed making it illegal to discriminate on the bases of gender.



Expectation of Women in the 17th, 18th and 19th Century:



To be truly polite, remember you must be polite at all times, and under all circumstances.

Never, when at the home table, leave it until the other members of the family are also ready to rise.

Never make a noise in eating. To munch or smack the lips are vulgar faults.

Be careful always to speak in a distinct, clear voice; at the same time avoid talking too loudly, there is a happy medium between mumbling and screaming. Strive to attain it.



Key People:



Emmeline Pankhurst: Leader of the British suffragette movement who helped women win the right to vote. She died in 1928, shortly before women were given full voting rights.



Emily Davison: A suffragette who joined the WSPU in 1906. She was frequently arrested for a number of crimes including setting fire to a post box. By 1911, she became increasingly militant.