

WOMEN OF PROTEST-LOC lesson 3

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Fifth Grade

Objectives

- Students will gain an understanding of the problems women faced as they lobbied for the right to vote.

Time

- One–two class periods

TEKS

(5.5) History. The student understands important issues, events, and individuals of the 20th century in the United States.

Context

The pictures show women protesters picketing for the right to vote, then being arrested and placed behind bars. Women were released from prison after conducting a hunger strike in protest of their arrest. This long struggle resulted in the ratification of the 19th Amendment allowing women's suffrage.

Lesson

Ask students how they might go about expressing their dissatisfaction with something they think is unfair. Have them list their ideas in their notebooks. Ask them to imagine being put in jail for speaking out and picketing against something they think is unfair. Write their responses in their notebooks. Discuss their responses with their partner and share with the class.

Show the picture of women picketing and ask: What do you see? What is happening? Why are they doing this? What might their feelings be at this time?

Display the pictures of the women being arrested and placed behind bars. Ask the same questions and discuss the situation the women were in at that time and why they were willing to go through the humiliation for their cause. This is what happened to women in the early 20th century when they attempted to express their dissatisfaction with not being able to vote.

Display the picture of the woman being helped to walk as she is being released from prison. Ask questions about what they see and feelings the woman might have. Explain that several women went on a hunger strike demanding better treatment during their imprisonment and they were force fed.

Explain that this protest finally resulted in a change in the Constitution –the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote. Show the pictures of ratification of the amendment and display of the banner from the balcony. Write in their notebooks about their reaction to these pictures and how it has affected them. Share with the class.

Assessment

Write a response to this lesson by summarizing what some women did during the early 20th century to protest unfair practices and how this action has affected our right to stand up for unfair practices today.



Photograph of a woman standing on chair speaking through a megaphone to suffragists standing with suffrage banners.

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mnwp.149040>



A policewoman arrests Florence Youmans and Annie Arniel for picketing in front of the White House gates

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mnwp.147006>



Helena Weed served time in a prison cell for participation in picketing marches.

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mnwp.275034>



Doris Lewis is released from jail where she participated in a hunger strike after her arrest for picketing. She is supported by others because she is too weak to walk.

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mnwp.160039>



The photograph shows Colorado's ratification of the suffrage amendment on Dec. 12, 1919.

<http://hal.loc.gov/loc.mss/mnwp.276032>



When Tennessee the 36th state ratified the 19th amendment in 1920, the ratification banner was unfurled by Alice Paul from Suffrage headquarters.

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mnwp.160068>