



Unit 6 C

**Timeline for Women's Suffrage**

**1832 – Suffrage Reform Act - women expressly forbidden from voting**

- 1865 – John Stuart Mill elected as an MP showing direct support for women’s suffrage
- 1867 – Reform Act - Male franchise extended
- 1869 – The first Territorial legislature of Wyoming grants woman suffrage
- 1869 – The Utah Territory grants woman suffrage
- 1886 – Suffrage Reform Act - More working class men enfranchised
- 1893 – Independent Labour Party formed
- 1894 – Local Government Act (women could vote in local elections, become Poor Law Guardians, act on School Boards)
- 1897 – National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) formed (led by Millicent Fawcett)
- October 1903 – First meeting of WSPU (led by Emmeline Pankhurst)
- 1905 – Militancy began (Christabel Pankhurst interrupted a Liberal Party meeting and spat at a policeman)
- February 1907 – NUWSS “Mud March” – largest open air demonstration ever held (at that point)
- 1905, 1908, 1913 – 3 phases of Women's Social & Political Union (WSPU) militancy (Civil Disobedience – Destruction of Public Property – Arson/Bombings)
- July 5, 1909 – Marion Wallace Dunlop went on the first hunger strike – was released after 91 hours of fasting
- September 1909 – Force Feeding introduced in prisons
- 1910 – Lady Constance Lytton disguised herself as a working class criminal, Jane Wharton, and was arrested and endured force feeding to prove prejudice in prisons against working class women. Lady Lytton was instrumental in reforming conditions in prisons. The force feeding shortened her life considerably
- February 1910 – Cross-Party Conciliation Committee (54 MPs). Conciliation Bill (that would enfranchise women) passed its 2nd reading by a majority of 109 but Asquith refused to give it more parliamentary time
- November 1910 – Asquith changed Bill to enfranchise more men instead of women
- November 18, 1910 – Black Friday
- June 4, 1913 – Emily Davison threw herself under the King’s Horse at the Epsom Derby
- March 13, 1914 – Mary Richardson slashed the Velasquez in the National Gallery with an axe, protesting that she was maiming a beautiful woman just as the government was maiming Emmeline Pankhurst with force feeding
- August 4, 1914 – First World War declared in Britain. WSPU activity immediately ceased. NUWSS activity continued peacefully - The Birmingham branch of the organisation continued to lobby Parliament and write letters to MPs.
- 1918 – The Representation of the People Act of 1918 enfranchised all women over the age of 30. This was probably so that women would not outnumber men in the voting process
- 1928 – Women received the vote on equal terms as men (over the age of 21)