

Time Traveler Scooter McGinty in ...

THE FIGHT FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

July 19, 1848
First Women's Rights Convention, Seneca Falls, NY

WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT, THAT ALL MEN AND WOMEN ARE CREATED EQUAL...



I'M **ELIZABETH CADY STANTON** AND THIS IS **LUCRETIA MOTT**. WE ARE LEADERS OF THE WOMEN'S "SUFFRAGE" MOVEMENT—MEANING WE WANT THE RIGHT TO VOTE, WHICH THE U.S. HAS DENIED US.

WE ALSO WANT EQUALITY IN EMPLOYMENT, PROPERTY OWNERSHIP, EDUCATION, RELIGION, AND AT HOME.

SOUNDS FAIR TO ME. BUT HOW DID YOUR MOVEMENT GET STARTED?

LET ME ANSWER THAT!

1851-WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION-AKRON, OHIO

I'M **SOJOURNER TRUTH**, A FORMER SLAVE, AND FOR YEARS I'VE BEEN AN ABOLITIONIST—FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHT OF AFRICAN AMERICANS TO BE FREE. LIKE OTHER ABOLITIONISTS, I SOON REALIZED THAT IF SLAVES SHOULD BE FREE, THEN WOMEN—ALL WOMEN—SHOULD BE FREE AS WELL!

THANKS FOR THE INFO, BUT YOU BETTER HURRY. YOU'RE ABOUT TO GIVE YOUR FAMOUS "AIN'T I A WOMAN" SPEECH!

HOW'D YOU KNOW THAT, STRANGER?

FACT BOX

By 1869, the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution ended slavery and gave African-American men the right to vote.

BACK IN SENECA FALLS...

I'M **AMELIA BLOOMER**, AND MAYBE YOU DON'T REALIZE HOW BAD THINGS ARE FOR WOMEN. MEN EVEN CONTROL THE WAY WE DRESS—IN TIGHT, UNCOMFORTABLE CLOTHING! IN MY WOMEN'S RIGHTS NEWSPAPER, *THE LILY*, I SUPPORT THIS NEW FASHION: LOOSE-FITTING PANTS AND A SHORT SKIRT. PEOPLE ARE CALLING THEM **BLOOMERS**.

YOU'RE RIGHT. THESE CLOTHES ARE KILLING ME!

1872

I'M **SUSAN B. ANTHONY**, AND I'VE BEEN WORKING WITH STANTON, MOTT, AND BLOOMER FOR 20 YEARS! I'VE CRISSCROSSED THE COUNTRY GIVING SPEECHES ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS. SINCE 1869 I'VE SPOKEN BEFORE THE U.S. CONGRESS TO DEMAND SUFFRAGE FOR WOMEN, AND RIGHT NOW I'M OFF TO VOTE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION!

WAIT! MAYBE I HAVE MY YEARS CONFUSED, BUT ISN'T IT 1872? WOMEN STILL CAN'T VOTE!

FACT BOX

Anthony appeared before Congress each year until 1906, the year she died. She was honored by the U.S. in 1979, when her profile appeared on the one-dollar coin.

NOVEMBER 5, 1872, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

HALT! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

GO AHEAD AND HANDCUFF ME— AFTER I DROP MY BALLOT IN THE BOX!

FACT BOX At a trial a year later, Anthony was fined \$100, which she refused to pay!

THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT GATHERED STEAM AS THE WESTERN STATES IN THE U.S. BEGAN PASSING LAWS ALLOWING WOMEN TO VOTE. THE CITIZENS OF ONE STATE WENT A STEP FURTHER...

1910 - MONTANA

WOW, JEANNETTE RANKIN, YOU'RE THE FIRST WOMAN TO BE ELECTED TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. WHAT A GREAT DAY FOR WOMEN ACROSS AMERICA!

GOOD LUCK IN D.C.!

IT'S A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, BUT WE STILL DO NOT HAVE A NATIONAL LAW GUARANTEEING WOMEN THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN EVERY STATE!

In 1920, that national law became a reality, when the U.S. Constitution's 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote. However, it would not become official until 36 states approved the law. Thirty-five states had okayed it before the Tennessee state legislature cast the deciding vote.

AUGUST 18, 1920, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

WE SEEM TO BE TIED AT 48 VOTES FOR, AND 48 AGAINST-- BUT MY MOTHER ASKED ME TO VOTE IN SUPPORT OF SUFFRAGE!

THEN IT'S DECIDED! THE LAW IS PASSED!

IT'S TOO BAD SUSAN B. ANTHONY AND THE OTHERS DIDN'T LIVE TO SEE THIS WONDERFUL DAY.

BUT THEY OPENED THE DOORS FOR SO MANY OTHER WOMEN WHO HAVE MADE THEIR MARK ON AMERICAN HISTORY. HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THEM.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT: FIRST LADY AND HUMANITARIAN

HATTIE WYATT CARANAY OF ARKANSAS: 1ST WOMAN ELECTED U.S. SENATOR

ELLA GRASSO OF CONNECTICUT: 1ST WOMAN ELECTED GOVERNOR

ROSA PARKS: HERO OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

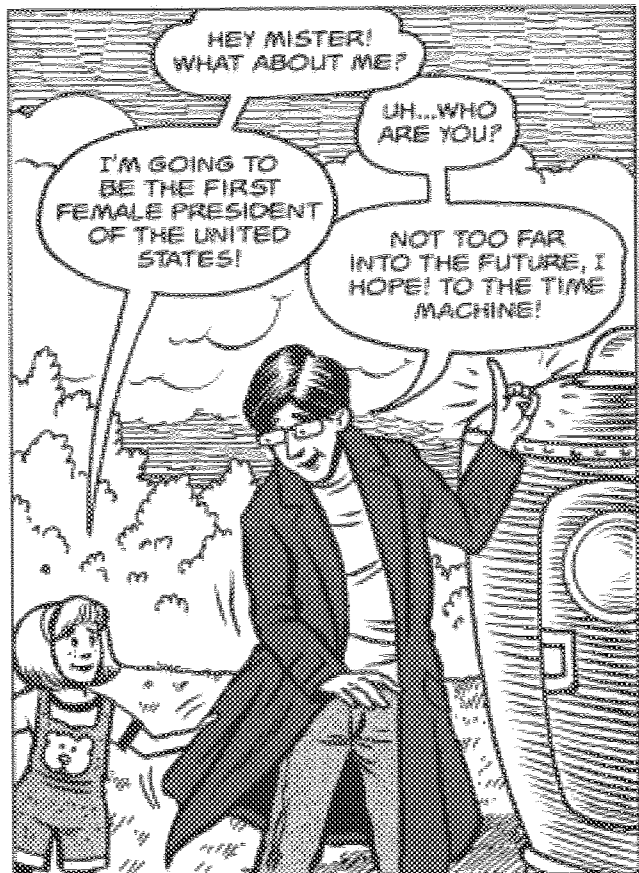
BETTY FRIEDAN: FOUNDER OF NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN

SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR AND RUTH BADER GINSBERG: 1ST AND 2ND FEMALE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

GERALDINE FERRARO: 1ST FEMALE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

JANEY RENO: 1ST FEMALE U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL

MADELEINE ALBRIGHT: 1ST FEMALE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE—HIGHEST RANKING WOMAN EVER IN U.S. GOVERNMENT



SCOOTER'S QUICK QUIZ

1. Who organized the first Women's Rights Convention and where was it held?
2. What is the link between the fight for slaves' rights and women's rights, as explained by Sojourner Truth?
3. Why do you think Susan B. Anthony cast a vote in Rochester, even though she knew it was against the law?
4. Research the life of one of the historic women in this comic. What are some of her achievements, and how has her work affected life in the United States?
5. Look up the Equal Rights Amendment, which Congress passed in 1972, but which never became national law. What rights are women still fighting for today?