

## Portfolio Assessment

The Portfolio contains the bulk of the work that you have completed this semester and should demonstrate a sophisticated use of sources and development as a researcher. The Portfolio is worth 60% of your final grade. Using the portfolio rubric, I will assess the Portfolio holistically. This means that I will be looking to see if you have met the assessment criteria consistently throughout your papers. For example, one of the criteria is “Present a position or argument concerning a problem or question”. You will want to determine if you have met the criteria for every paper, *regardless of whether or not I have commented on every specific aspect on each paper*. First of all, neither I nor your peers can address every single aspect at one time. But most importantly, the focus is on you developing into an independent writer and researcher. See the rubric for the assessment criteria.

### Portfolio Submission

Please include all of your portfolio materials in an 8½ x 11 manila envelope with your name, class section, semester, and date written on the front. Do not seal the envelope. Portfolios are due in class on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. **No late submissions will be accepted.** I realize that there are last minute catastrophes, but to be fair to everyone you will simply have to turn the Portfolio in “as is”, rather than expect an extension, so please do not ask for one. In addition, *you must include the draft with my comments in order for your Portfolio to receive a passing grade.*

### Include in the Portfolio (in this order)

1. Permission form for me to copy your portfolio for future classes (Optional)
2. Cover Letter, 2-4 pages
3. Revised Research Paper, 8-12 pages (Optional: Sign-off sheet for Jr. Writing Portfolio)
  - a. Draft of Research Paper with my comments
  - b. Additional Drafts of Research Paper
  - c. Sources for Research Paper with quoted and summarized material highlighted
4. Revised Short Paper #1, 4-5 pages (Optional: Sign-off sheet for Jr. Writing Portfolio)
  - a. Draft of Short Paper with my comments
  - b. Additional Drafts of Short Paper
  - c. Sources for Research Paper with quoted and summarized material highlighted
5. Revised Short Paper #2, 4-5 pages (Optional: Sign-off sheet for Jr. Writing Portfolio)
  - a. Draft of Short Paper with my comments
  - b. Additional Drafts of Short Paper
  - c. Sources for Research Paper with quoted and summarized material highlighted

Staple individual papers, and attach all of the drafts and sources to the revised draft with a sturdy paper clip. Note that I will expect that all of your citations will conform to a citation style.

### Optional Conferences

I highly encourage you to sign-up for a conference with me sometime during Final’s week so that I can return your Portfolio.

### Cover Letter

The cover letter is perhaps the most important part of the portfolio. In the cover letter, you reflect on your writing and development as a researcher as a whole. Most importantly, it is a place for you to present what you are accomplishing in the Portfolio; your cover letter is where you make your claims, and the Portfolio is where I look for the evidence. (Remember that I am grading the Portfolio holistically, so if you discuss how much your organization improved, you will want to ensure that you have worked on your organization for each paper.) The object here is not to promote your writing and research skills as perfect (especially since few writers, even professional writers, ever declare their writing to be “finished”), but to recognize that, as writers and researchers, we all have areas which are strong and areas which we continue to work on. Therefore, the cover letter is more personal than your other essays and should reveal how you see yourself as a writer and as a researcher and how your Portfolio supports that development.

There is no standard format for a cover letter for a portfolio, but you should include your name, class, and the date. You will be expected to discuss the following in 2-4 pages:

- A description of yourself as a writer and researcher, and your development over the semester—what did you learn about yourself? What are your strong areas? Which ones do you still need to improve on?
- An introduction to each of the 3 papers which you include in your portfolio—why did you include them? (Other than “you made me”.) What do you perceive as strong about them? *How did you revise them?* How might you still revise them if you had the time?
- Somewhere in the letter, be sure to address your improvement as a writer/researcher in terms of writing from sources, both primary and secondary.
- Address what you will continue to work on as a writer/researcher in the future—do not fear that this will be a cause for lowering your grade, as one of our goals in the class was to understand that revision and researching skills are continually developing.

Note that I do not want general discussion, but specific examples. Writing that “I changed the things you told me to change and now I think it’s a lot better” is a common statement, but not one that helps me understand how you have reflected on your writing and revised it accordingly. In addition to examples, quote yourself at least twice to provide evidence of a particular feature.

Also note that the cover letter is not the place to praise or complain about me as a teacher or the class in general. The purpose of the cover letter is to reflect on you as a writer and researcher and on the writing for the class. You can, of course, refer to specific instances in the class that served to help you improve your skills, as long as *you* remain the focus. That said, not everything in the cover letter has to be positive.

Finally, be sure to write using academic conventions. Though the essay is more informal, you are still expected to use complete sentences and follow basic academic conventions. Telling me that you learned the value of revision when you are misspelling words and writing in fragments is not necessarily going to impress me!

English 201

April 26, 2005

Cover Letter

I have always really enjoyed to write, and English has always been one of my favorite subjects in school. Unlike many general education requirements at Washington State University, writing and researching skills are applicable to nearly any discipline you can imagine. Knowing that you will need and use these skills in the future makes it much more appealing and interesting. This class has challenged both my researching and writing skills tremendously, and I learned a lot about myself. I realized that the main thing I needed to work on in all of my papers was really analyzing information rather than just reporting on it. Prior to taking this class, I wasn't really pushed to delve beyond a report of information. I also learned that my research itself sometimes falls short. This class has really helped me develop my research skills and has introduced me to new resources and methods of conducting research. I thought that keeping the annotated bibliography was a great idea, and one I will likely use in the future. This made my research paper easier, because I could look back at my summaries and determine if my sources would be useful. This class helped me realize my strengths as a writer. I think my biggest strength is revision. My first drafts are usually really choppy and incomplete, and that was something that used to discourage me. Now I know that I can revise them really well, and that writing that initial first draft (regardless of quality) is usually the hardest part.

My revision process can be seen in all of my papers in this portfolio. I chose to include the journal review paper, because I think this is the best example of my revision process. This paper started out very rocky and incomplete, at best. Then, after further research and analysis, it was revised into a paper I am really proud of.

Not only has my revision process improved over the semester, I also learned a lot about researching and different sources. This is why I included the microform paper. Prior to this assignment I had not used microforms as a method of research. I thought it was incredible that you could see what was in the newspaper in the 1920's and look at pictures and advertisements from so long ago. I found articles in old newspapers to be very valuable not only in this paper, but also in my research paper. In this paper I say, "In the New York Times, a highly respected newspaper, there was one article on about women's suffrage on August 27, 1920." Using the microforms was new and exciting for me, and I had a lot of fun researching this paper. Also, since writing this paper I have used microforms as a method of research for a paper in another class. Learning about this source of information and how to utilize it has been very beneficial to me.

I also included my final research paper in this portfolio, because it was such a cumulated effort. I brought together several methods of research and analysis to write this paper. For the first time, I used an interview as a primary source. The interview was with Brea Thompson, ASWSU President. Using information and quotes from her, I was able to support one of my claims in this paper about stereotypes of women. Brea's comments on the issue were: "Most are democrats, the experience of being a minority, sexually harassed, or maternal instinct lends itself to a more left-leaning group. They are often less worried about the bottom line, as many republicans are, and are more interested

in people." I think that using the interview improved the strength of my paper, while conducting the interview strengthened my research skills.

I would not truly consider any of these papers to be perfect, nor entirely complete. They are all incomplete in the sense that given an indefinite amount of time there are still many things I would like to research and include in each of these papers. If I had the time I would seek out more primary sources, such as photos, advertisements, and quotes and opinions about women in government. In the future there are a few things I will work on. The main thing I need to continually work on, and have improved on throughout this semester, is seeking out new and different methods of research and information.

*good*

*Nice revisions!*

## Journal Review

The purpose of this assignment is for you to explore the kinds of research that are current in your field. In addition, you can use the articles you find as the first sources for your longer research paper.

### 2-3 page option:

- Identify some of the major journals in your field. Choose at least two to review.
- Look over the table of contents in one issue or volume of each separate journal. By the titles, describe what kinds of research are currently popular (e.g., in education journals, what is being discussed: assessment? diversity in the classroom? classroom management?, etc.) You do not need to list every single item being researched; make some conclusions between the two journals. (Write this information down in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of your Researcher's Notebook, not in your paper.\*)
- Pick two articles, one from each journal, that either seem representative of the types of research that is currently the trend *or* that would help with your own research topic.
- Give a brief summary of the articles and review them. The review can take any form that is most useful for you. You can critique the authors' points, consider how their points might influence you as you continue in your field, or discuss how the ideas might fit into a larger research paper.
- The paper must have an introduction and conclusion. While this is a review and you may not necessarily have a thesis, you should have an overriding point.

### 4-5 page option:

This option is similar to the 2-3 page option, except that you must choose three articles from at least two different scholarly journals. While I do not expect the 2-3 page papers to discuss the sources in relation to each other, you must find a way to make these particular sources "talk" to each other. In other words, do not write one page on each article and discuss all three in the conclusion. Find similar or dissenting points in each article and discuss the sources together. It is best for this option to find three articles that discuss the same topic *or* articles that might all fit in to your final research paper. This paper should have a main point; while you are not required at this stage to have a concrete thesis, this is a good place to try out possible theses for your final research paper.

### Required for both papers:

- Include a complete works cited page and correct in-text citations for your formatting style.
- The paper should be able to stand on its own, even if you plan on expanding it for the larger paper.
- Turn in the peer review draft with the submission draft. *Save all drafts!*

\*Some journals will be found only online. In this case, you might have difficulty finding a table of contents, although some online journals list the titles of all of the articles for the same issue. If you choose to look only at journals in electronic format, note this and any other observations you can.

## Journal Assignment Women's Elections - Peer Draft

There are many factors that lead to the election of one official over another.

These include but are not limited to: political party and ideology, service record, prior offices, economic status, community involvement, and only recently has gender become an issue. With more women making a run for top ranking government positions, gender has become a fundamental issue in elections and politics. Scholars all agree that gender is a huge factor in determining the outcomes of elections, they do not necessarily agree on <sup>however</sup> to what degree it influences the political process or why.

Jennifer Lawless argues that the situations surrounding elections play a huge role on whether or not a female candidate will win an election. "Citizens prefer men's leadership traits and characteristic, deem them more competent at legislating around issues of national security and military crisis, and contend that men are superior to women at addressing the new obstacles generated by the events of September 11, 2001." (Lawless 1). In her article, Lawless argues that it is not necessarily a candidate's gender that will determine an election outcome, but rather the important issues at that time. Since the attacks of September 11th there has been a huge emphasis on military action and war. In these times, the American people are not likely to endorse a women candidate for a high-level office; the average citizen prefers male post 9/11 leadership nine to one (Lawless 5). Aside from military crisis and times of heightened national security, there are other factors that determine the outcome of women candidates in elections.

Not only do the pertinent issues impact the level of success a woman will have in  
and political climate

an election, but it also depends where geographically in the United States she is running. According to Susan Welch and Donley T Studlar, of Pennsylvania State University and West Virginia State University geography is a significant factor in predicting a woman's success in an election. Areas where there is strong tradition and culture such as the Southern states do not typically provide women with opportunities to run for political office. Whereas, states in the West<sup>where</sup> states are the least traditional especially regarding female's roles there are many more women in office (Studlar and Welch 863).

One example of this theory working in real time is in Washington. Washington's two senators, Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray, are both female; as is our governor, Christine Gregoire. *This proves that women have a fair chance to win in certain areas, but not at a national level.*

Traditionally the roles of politician, lawyer, doctor, and business person were always filled by men. When women entered the workforce they were traditionally restricted to being a nurse, school teacher, seamstress, caregiver, or maid. Although, recently, women are gaining numbers in top law, business, and medical schools. In a 1985 study published in the Social Science Quarterly, only 16 percent of medical doctors were women and 16 percent of women were lawyers, while 99 percent of secretaries were women and 83 of school teachers were women (McCauley and Thangavelu 270). Politics is still an area that women have quite disproportionate representation to the number of men involved. Gender stereotyping plays a big role in women's attempts to get involved in politics. It is a common stereotype that all women interested in office affiliate with the Democratic party, also "Women candidates and office holders are generally perceived as more liberal than men candidates of the same party" (Lawless 2). Meaning that even if a woman runs on the Republican ticket voters will assume she is more of a moderate than a



male would be.

Gender stereotyping happens all over the place. It is evident in news coverage, campaign strategies, party selections, and election outcomes. According to a study McCauley and Thangavelu there are certain personality traits that most people associate to be either masculine or feminine. The traits they found mostly identified as masculine traits were: aggressiveness, athleticism, self-sufficiency, competitiveness, and willingness to take a stand. The traits that most people identified as feminine personality traits were: gentleness, eagerness to soothe feelings, doesn't use harsh language, and sympathy (McCauley and Thangavelu 271). These assumptions of traits illustrate gender stereotypes perfectly.

After reading <sup>these</sup> ~~this~~ article and examining the research and ideas represented, it leaves you with a dismal impression of women's future in America. At a time of war and military turmoil, women do not stand a good chance at getting elected to high ranking positions. ~~While the arguments presented in this article are supported by her research, government and are overwhelmingly outnumbered by men.~~ <sup>women are few and far between in our national</sup> ~~they are not set in stone~~ I think that women have a good chance in being elected in the near future. Condelezza Rice is a perfect example of women's advancements happening right now. I think women can bring change and a much needed new perspective on the world and current events. While, not all the facts and predictions support it, I have confidence that women will fare well in the 2008 elections.

### Works Cited

Lawless, Jennifer L. "Women, War, and Winning Elections: Gender stereotyping in the post-September 11th Era." Political Research Quarterly 57.3 (2004) : 479-490.

McCauley, Clark and Thangavelu, Krishma. "Individual Differences in Sex Stereotyping of Occupations and Personality Traits." Social Psychology Quarterly. 54.3 (Sep. 1991): 267-279.

Studlar, Donley and Welch, Susan. "The Opportunity Structure for Women's Candidacies and Electability in Britain and the United States." Political Research Quarterly. 49.4 (Dec. 1996): 861-874.

*Women's Elections-Submission Draft*

There are many factors that lead to the election of one official over another.

These include but are not limited to: political party and ideology, service record, prior offices, economic status, community involvement, and only recently has gender become an issue. With more women making a run for top ranking government positions, gender has become a fundamental hot button issue in elections and politics. Scholars all agree that gender is a huge factor in determining the outcomes of elections, they do not necessarily agree on to what degree it influences the political process or why.

Jennifer Lawless argues that the situations surrounding elections play a huge role on whether or not a female candidate will win an election. "Citizens prefer men's leadership traits and characteristic, <sup>and them</sup> deem more competent at legislating around issues of national security and military crisis, and contend that men are superior to women at addressing the new obstacles generated by the events of September 11, 2001." (Lawless 1). In her article, Lawless argues that it is not necessarily a candidate's gender that will determine an election outcome, but rather the important issues at that time. Since the attacks of September 11th there has been a huge emphasis on military action and war. In these times, the American people are not likely to endorse a women candidate for a high-level office; the average citizen prefers male post 9/11 leadership nine to one (Lawless 5). Aside from military crisis and times of heightened national security, there are other factors that determine the outcome of women candidates in elections.

Traditionally the roles of politician, lawyer, doctor, and business person were always filled by men. In recent years, women are gaining numbers in top law, business,

and medical schools. Politics is still an area that women have quite disproportionate representation to the number of men involved. Gender stereotyping plays a big role in women's attempts to get involved in politics. "Women candidates and office holders are generally perceived as more liberal than men candidates of the same party" (Lawless 2).

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Excellent topic  
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## Works Cited

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English 201

April 26, 2005

Journal Assignment

Women's Elections - final Draft

There are many factors that lead to the election of one official over another.

These include but are not limited to: political party and ideology, service record, prior offices, economic status, community involvement, and only recently has gender become an issue. With more women making a run for top ranking government positions, gender has become a fundamental issue in elections and politics. Scholars all agree that gender is a huge factor in determining the outcomes of elections, however they do not necessarily agree on to what degree it influences the political process or why.

Jennifer Lawless argues that the situations surrounding elections play a huge role on whether or not a female candidate will win an election. "Citizens prefer men's leadership traits and characteristic, deem them more competent at legislating around issues of national security and military crisis, and contend that men are superior to women at addressing the new obstacles generated by the events of September 11, 2001." (Lawless 1). In her article, Lawless argues that it is not necessarily a candidate's gender that will determine an election outcome, but rather the important issues at that time. Since the attacks of September 11th there has been a huge emphasis on military action and war. In these times, the American people are not likely to endorse a women candidate for a high-level office; the average citizen prefers male post 9/11 leadership

nine to one (Lawless 5). Aside from military crisis and times of heightened national security, there are other factors that determine the outcome of women candidates in elections.

Not only do the pertinent issues and general political culture of the country impact the level of success a woman will have in an election, but it also depends where geographically in the United States she is running. According to Susan Welch and Donley T Studlar, of Pennsylvania State University and West Virginia State University geography is a significant factor in predicting a woman's success in an election. Areas where there is strong tradition and culture such as the Southern states do not typically provide women with opportunities to run for political office. Whereas, states in the West, where states are the least traditional especially regarding female's roles there are many more women in office (Studlar and Welch 863). One example of this theory working in real time is in my home state of Washington. Washington's two senators, Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray, are both female; as is our governor, Christine Gregoire. This proves that women have a fair chance to succeed in local and state level elections in certain areas, but that they do not have the same opportunity at the national level.

Traditionally the roles of politician, lawyer, doctor, and business person were always filled by men. When women entered the workforce they were traditionally restricted to being a nurse, school teacher, seamstress, caregiver, or maid. Although, recently, women are gaining numbers in top law, business, and medical schools. In a 1985 study published in the Social Science Quarterly, only 16 percent of medical doctors were women and 16 percent of women were lawyers, while 99 percent of secretaries were women and 83 of school teachers were women (McCauley and Thangavelu 270). Politics

is still an area that women have quite disproportionate representation to the number of men involved. Gender stereotyping plays a big role in women's attempts to get involved in politics. It is a common stereotype that all women interested in office affiliate with the Democratic party, also "Women candidates and office holders are generally perceived as more liberal than men candidates of the same party" (Lawless 2). Meaning that even if a woman runs on the Republican ticket voters will assume she is more of a moderate than a male would be.

Gender stereotyping happens all over the place. It is evident in news coverage, campaign strategies, party selections, and election outcomes. According to a study McCauley and Thangavelu there are certain personality traits that most people associate to be either masculine or feminine. The traits they found mostly identified as masculine traits were: aggressiveness, athleticism, self-sufficiency, competitiveness, and willingness to take a stand. The traits that most people identified as feminine personality traits were: gentleness, eagerness to soothe feelings, doesn't use harsh language, and sympathy (McCauley and Thangavelu 271). These assumptions of traits illustrate gender stereotypes perfectly.

After reading these article and examining the research and ideas represented, it leaves you with a dismal impression of women's future in America. At a time of war and military turmoil, women do not stand a good chance at getting elected to high ranking positions. Today in a time where things are presumed to be equal and just, women are far outnumbered by men in our national government. Advancements are being made, just very slow and steady. I think that women have a good chance in being elected in the near future. Condelezza Rice is a perfect example of women's advancements happening right

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### Microform as Sources

With the onset of computers and online article availability, students frequently are able to conduct research for their research projects without ever actually stepping foot into the library. Unfortunately, this means that many students miss out on a wide variety of resources which are available to them. One of these resources is microform, which refers to storing printed material in miniature form. Microfilm and microfiche are two types of microforms available at WSU.

For your final research paper, you may decide not to use microform sources. However, since this is a research class, it is still important that you are exposed to various types of retrieving information. Ideally, this paper should enable you to look at newspapers as primary sources, so that you can explore your topic in additional ways. While you may not necessarily use any of the sources you found for this particular assignment, ideally the sources you find should inspire you to do more research.

#### Assignment:

Write a 4-5 page mini-research paper using microform as your sources. You may use any kind of microform: newspaper articles, magazine articles, or journal articles, editorials, government cartoons, ads, or pictures. Your source can be current or old.

#### Requirements:

- Cite all of your sources (you will need at least three), both in text and at the end of your paper. I will refuse to comment on a paper that has no Works Cited page or in-text citations.
- Include an introduction and a conclusion.
- Write a defensible thesis. This thesis does not necessarily have to be the one you will ultimately use in your final research paper. Remember that this paper has to stand on its own, so your thesis for this paper might be quite different than your final thesis.
- Ensure that the focus of each paragraph is on your *topic*, not the sources themselves. I will expect you to include perspectives from at least 2 sources within a single paragraph (although this is not meant to be prescriptive: naturally if a topic only relates to one source, you only need to cite one source within a paragraph, but try to find topics which multiple sources can discuss).
- Analyze your topic and your sources' ideas. *Avoid writing a report.*

#### Homework for Thursday:

Look over the research you have now, and look at any key dates or time periods for your particular research project. Since microform is best researched by date rather than subject, noting any key dates or years will be helpful in your search on Thursday, although you can still conduct your research if key dates are not applicable for your topic.

**Example:** For example, if you were researching cloning, you might look up the date that Dolly was cloned. On Thursday, look up that particular date in several different newspapers or magazines on microform. Try to find newspapers that would be significantly different from each other, and possibly have different perspectives on the same issue: for example, the *New York Times* and the *London Times*, or the *NYT* and a local newspaper. Even if you never intend to mention Dolly in your final research paper, looking up this date will let you read about different perspectives in cloning. Create a thesis, perhaps one which compares and contrasts how people in Britain view cloning as opposed to the people in the U.S. Use specific details, quotes, etc., in each of your articles to support your point.

Focus on

- do my quotes add to the paper and make sense where I use them.
- Are my thoughts easy to understand or do I ~~ramble~~ ramble on.

English 201

February 24, 2005

### Microform as Sources

Revise title

Rough Draft

America's?

The media has become American's primary source for gaining information about the world we live in. We look to the daily news cast and newspaper for information about the weather, sports, local events, national and global news, and, most of all, politics. If it were not for the media, the average American would have very little knowledge about elections, candidates, court decisions, and other government happenings. In this day and age a huge part of news coverage includes political coverage, often times so much that it is almost all you hear about. In the midst of a nearing election, monumental court decision, or political scandal we can hardly help turning on the television and hearing about it or seeing it on the front page of the paper. While now there is this abundance of information and exposure to politics and government, it has not always been the case. Often times, female or racial minority candidates do not receive the media attention and coverage, making it difficult for them to be known by the general public.

check your sentence structure here. Can each sentence stand alone?

Historically, there have been many huge advancements in women's rights and political involvement. In 1920 women were granted the right to vote; they were the last segment of our population given this right. On August 26, 1920 the 19th amendment was ratified giving women everywhere the right to vote. One would think that this was a landmark event in politics, that it would be all over the news and there would be no getting away from it. When, in reality it was not publicized to quite that degree. In the

Complete sentence

New York Times, a highly respected newspaper, there was one article about women's suffrage on August 27, 1920. ONE! One measly article, not even a major headline, nothing special. The title read "Court Refuses to Delay Suffrage". A look deeper into this article reveals that it is not in support to the decision to ratify the nineteenth amendment, but rather a news article covering the protests and anticipated appeals to the decision. "Opponents of woman suffrage today made their last stand against the nineteenth amendment. They appeared before Justice Frederick L. Siddons in the District of Columbia Supreme Court and asked for an injunction to restrain Secretary of State Colby from issuing a proclamation declaring the amendment ratified by the required 36 states (Court 1)." was the opening and basic premise for the single article covering the issue of women's suffrage. Thankfully, media coverage and bias on women's political issues has changed and evolved with our society.

Another significant event in the women's movement is the confirmation of Sandra Day O'Connor to the U.S. Supreme Court on September 22, 1981. O'Connor was the first woman appointed and confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The vote confirming O'Connor was 99-0 (with one senator out of town not participating) so, she was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. This issue received much more media attention in the New York Times than did the issuance of women's suffrage. Her nomination was featured on the front page of the New York Times on July 8, 1981 and her confirmation hearing/debate was featured as well as her nomination on September 22, 1981 in an article entitled "Senate Confirms Judge O'Connor; She Will Join High Court Friday." There is a picture of her and the president outside the capital and the illustrates

the significance of her confirmation. President Reagan is quoted in the article "the confirmation symbolizes the richness of opportunity that still abides in America for persons of any sex, age, or race, from every section and every walk of life (Greenhouse 1).<sup>11</sup> When compared to the coverage of the suffrage movement this event did receive much better media coverage. This is evidence that the times are changing and that as our society grows and becomes more diverse and open to change, that things will continue in the right direction.

There are many things happening in the world of politics that are more recent advancements for women that receive the same or more news coverage the same issues of men's politics. The Confirmation of Condelezza Rice as Secretary of State was in the news for weeks and portrayed in a very positive light. If you just look at the moment, it can be easy to feel like women and other minorities in politics are not advancing, but when looking back over the past 85 years it is amazing to see how far we as an entire society have come.

English 201

April 26, 2005

## Women in the Media: Today and Yesterday

Microform Assignment  
- Peer Draft

The media has become American's primary source for gaining information about the world we live in. We look to the daily news cast and newspaper for the latest in weather, sports, local events, national and global news, and most of all politics. If it were not for the media, the average American would have very little knowledge about elections, <sup>political</sup> candidates, court decisions, and other government <sup>all</sup> happenings. In this day and age a huge part of news reporting includes political coverage, oftentimes <sup>to the extreme</sup> so much that it is ~~almost~~ all you hear about. In the midst of a nearing election, monumental court decision, or political scandal we can hardly help from turning on the television and hearing about it or seeing it on the front page of <sup>every news</sup> the paper. While today there is this abundance of information and exposure to politics and government, <sup>it is not where</sup> ~~this has not always~~ been the case. <sup>near equal or unbiased</sup> ~~In the past, coverage.~~ <sup>did do</sup> Often times, female or racial minority candidates do not receive the media attention and coverage, <sup>that many male candidates do,</sup> making it difficult for them to be known by the general public. <sup>or elected,</sup>

Historically, there have been many <sup>tremendous</sup> huge advancements in women's rights and political involvement. For example, in 1920 women were granted the right to vote, however they were the last segment of our population given this right. On August 26, 1920 the 19th amendment was ratified giving women everywhere the right to vote. One would think that this was a landmark event in politics, that it would be all over the news and there would be no getting away from it. When, in reality <sup>this event</sup> it was not publicized to

quite that degree. In the New York Times, a highly respected newspaper, there was one

article about women's suffrage on August 27, 1920. ~~ONE~~ <sup>minute</sup> One ~~measly~~ <sup>there was no</sup> article, ~~not even a~~  
<sup>nothing noteworthy or profound.</sup>  
 major headline, ~~nothing special~~. The title read "Court Refuses to Delay Suffrage". A

deeper look into this article reveals that it is not in support of the decision to ratify the

nineteenth amendment, but rather a news article covering the protests and anticipated

appeals to the decision. <sup>The opening and basic premise of the article</sup> "Opponents of woman suffrage today made their last stand <sup>was,</sup>

against the nineteenth amendment. They appeared before Justice Frederick L. Siddons in

the District of Columbia Supreme Court and asked for an injunction to restrain Secretary

of State Colby from issuing a proclamation declaring the amendment ratified by the

required 36 states (Court 1)." <sup>This was the only view point expressed in</sup>  
<sup>was the opening and basic premise for the single article</sup>  
<sup>the one and only article covering the issue of women's suffrage</sup>  
~~covering the issue of women's suffrage.~~ Thankfully, media coverage and bias on

<sup>News stories on this same day were the former surveyor</sup>  
~~women's political issues has changed and evolved with our society.~~ <sup>general of supplies</sup>  
<sup>having an appendix operation, and tax increases for major</sup>  
<sup>cities. These two seemingly insignificant events each were</sup>  
<sup>each given</sup>  
<sup>major head</sup>  
<sup>and on the</sup>  
<sup>front page</sup>  
 Another significant event in the women's movement is the confirmation of Sandra

Day O'Connor to the U.S. Supreme Court on September 22, 1981. O'Connor was the

first woman appointed and confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The vote confirming

O'Connor was 99-0 (with one senator out of town not participating) so, she was

unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. This issue received much more media

attention in the New York Times than did the issuance of women's suffrage. Her

nomination was featured on the front page of the New York Times on July 8, 1981 and

her confirmation hearing/debate was featured as well as her nomination on September 22,

1981 in an article entitled "Senate Confirms Judge O'Connor; She Will Join High Court

Friday." There is a picture of her with the president outside the capital and the article



illustrates the significance of her confirmation. President Reagan is quoted in the article as saying, "the confirmation symbolizes the richness of opportunity that still abides in America for persons of any sex, age, or race, from every section and every walk of life" (Greenhouse 1). When compared to the coverage of the suffrage movement this event did receive much better media coverage. This is evidence that the times are changing and that as our society grows it will become more diverse forcing citizens to be open to change.

In more recent news, the nomination and confirmation of Condoleezza Rice as Secretary of State is a monumental event in the women's movement. Rice is the first African American woman to serve as Secretary of State. The Condoleezza Rice story was all over the newspapers and television broadcasts. While each article had a slightly different message or bias when covering these events, they were all fairly positive in respect to women's advancements in the political field. One such article praised Condoleezza as one of the best politicians to ever serve as Secretary of State "Condi will restore the prestige and status of the Secretary of State" (Starobin 2). Although Rice has received respect and praise of many of her colleagues she has been faced with obstacles. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, whom Rice works closely with, is mostly-male and mostly-white. The members of the committee have taken to considering her to be their Cinderella, and see her in a protective and romantic setting (Starobin 6). While there are still stereotypes and labels thrown around, the positive aspects of the Condoleezza Rice story far outweigh the negatives. According to Republican Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, Condoleezza is "someone all of America can be proud of" (Starobin

5).

There are many things happening in the world of politics that are more recent advancements for women that receive the same or more news coverage the same issues of men's politics. If you just look at the moment, it can be easy to feel like women and other minorities in politics are not advancing, but when looking back over the past 85 years it is amazing to see how far we as an entire society have come.

## Women in the Media: Today and Yesterday

Microform Assignment  
- Peer Draft

The media has become America's primary source for gaining information about the world we live in. We look to the daily news cast and newspaper for information <sup>new word</sup> about the weather, sports, local events, national and global news, and most of all politics.

If it were not for the media, the average American would have very little knowledge about elections, candidates, court decisions, and other government happenings. In this day-and-age a huge part of news coverage includes political coverage, oftentimes so much that it is almost all you hear about. In the midst of a nearing election, monumental court

decision, or political scandal we can hardly help turning on the television and hearing <sup>that it is all you can watch/read?</sup>

about it or seeing it on the front page of the paper. While now there is this abundance of <sup>from; sounds like a word is missing</sup> information and exposure to politics and government, <sup>today an</sup> it has not always been the case. <sup>& your saying opposit</sup>

Often times, female or racial minority candidates do not receive the media attention <sup>or</sup> <sup>this</sup> <sup>you don't continue to bring this up throughout the paper</sup> coverage, making it difficult for them to be known by the general public.

Historically, there have been many huge advancements in women's rights and <sup>for example,</sup> political involvement. In 1920 women were granted the right to vote, <sup>however</sup> they were the last segment of our population given this right. On August 26, 1920 the 19th amendment was ratified giving women everywhere the right to vote. One would think that this was a landmark event in politics, that it would be all over the news and there would be no <sup>getting away from it.</sup> When, in reality it was not publicized to quite that degree. In the New York Times, a highly respected newspaper, there was one article about women's suffrage on August 27, 1920. ONE! One measly article, not even a major headline,

no way to  
not know about it

or in the past? before you  
talk in past tense

nothing special. The title read "Court Refuses to Delay Suffrage". A look deeper into this article reveals that it is not in support of the decision to ratify the nineteenth amendment, but rather a news article covering the protests and anticipated appeals to the decision. "Opponents of woman suffrage today made their last stand against the nineteenth amendment. They appeared before Justice Frederick L. Siddons in the District of Columbia Supreme Court and asked for an injunction to restrain Secretary of State Colby from issuing a proclamation declaring the amendment ratified by the required 36 states (Court 1)." was the opening and basic premise for the single article covering the issue of women's suffrage. Thankfully, media coverage and bias on women's political issues has changed and evolved with our society.

*Put this before quote*

*now?*

Another significant event in the women's movement is the confirmation of Sandra Day O'Connor to the U.S. Supreme Court on September 22, 1981. O'Connor was the first woman appointed and confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The vote confirming O'Connor was 99-0 (with one senator out of town not participating) so, she was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. This issue received much more media attention in the New York Times than did the issuance of women's suffrage. Her nomination was featured on the front page of the New York Times on July 8, 1981 and her confirmation hearing/debate was featured as well as her nomination on September 22, 1981 in an article entitled "Senate Confirms Judge O'Connor; She Will Join High Court Friday." There is a picture of her <sup>with</sup> and the president outside the capital <sup>and the</sup> illustrates the significance of her confirmation. President Reagan is quoted in the article <sup>as saying,</sup> "the confirmation symbolizes the richness of opportunity that still abides in America for

persons of any sex, age, or race, from every section and every walk of life" (Greenhouse

1). When compared to the coverage of the suffrage movement this event did receive much better media coverage. This is evidence that the times are changing and ~~that~~ as our society grows and becomes more diverse and open to change, ~~that~~ things will continue in the right direction.

→ which is what

In more recent news, the nomination and confirmation of Condoleezza Rice as Secretary of State is a monumental event in the women's movement. Rice is the first African American woman to serve as Secretary of State. The Condoleezza Rice story was

many

all over the newspapers and television broadcasts. While each article had a slightly different message or bias when covering these events, they were all fairly positive in

-all or just the Rice event?

respect to women's advancements in the political field. One such article praised Condoleezza as one of the best politicians to ever serve as Secretary of State "Condi will

introduce quote more

restore the prestige and status of the Secretary of State" (Starobin 2). Although Rice has received <sup>the</sup> respect and praise of many of her colleagues she has been faced with obstacles.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, whom Rice works closely with, is mostly-

primarily consists of white-males or overwhelming majority

male and mostly-white. The members of the committee have taken to considering her to

consider her to be...

be their Cinderella, and see her in a protective and romantic setting (Starobin 6). While

→ how so, explain

there are still stereotypes and labels thrown around, the positive aspects of the

Condoleezza Rice story far outweigh the negatives. According to Republican Chuck

Hagel of Nebraska, Condoleezza is "someone all of America can be proud of" (Starobin

5). ← don't end w/ quote, introduce next subj in following paragraph

There are many things happening in the world of politics that are more recent

↑ 7

5).

confusing  
wording

4

There are many things happening in the world of politics that are more recent

advancements for women that receive the same or more news coverage the same issues of

men's politics. If you just look at the moment, it can be easy to feel like women and

other minorities in politics are not advancing, but when looking back over the past 85

years it is amazing to see how far we as an entire society have come.

↓  
didn't  
talk about  
other  
minorities

↓  
as a  
summary  
sum-up that  
women suffered in  
past but it's getting better etc.

↓  
where are  
we ~~to~~ now?

Need feedback on:

- does my paper flow well, does the order seem to make sense.
- Sentence structure/grammar

English 201

March 1, 2005

### Women in the Media: Today and Yesterday

Microform Assignment  
- Submission Draft

The media has become American's primary source for gaining information about the world we live in. We look to the daily news cast and newspaper for information about the weather, sports, local events, national and global news, and most of all politics. If it were not for the media, the average American would have very little knowledge about elections, candidates, court decisions, and other government happenings. In this day and age a huge part of news coverage includes political coverage, often times so much that it is almost all you hear about. In the midst of a nearing election, monumental court decision, or political scandal we can hardly help turning on the television and hearing about it or seeing it on the front page of the paper. While now there is this abundance of information and exposure to politics and government, it has not always been the case. Often times, female or racial minority candidates do not receive the media attention and coverage, making it difficult for them to be known by the general public.

Historically, there have been many huge advancements in women's rights and political involvement. In 1920 women were granted the right to vote, they were the last segment of our population given this right. On August 26, 1920 the 19th amendment was ratified giving women everywhere the right to vote. One would think that this was a landmark event in politics, that it would be all over the news and there would be no getting away from it. When, in reality it was not publicized to quite that degree. In the

good start  
to them  
which  
does what

15-0

New York Times, a highly respected newspaper, there was one article about women's suffrage on August 27, 1920. ONE! One measly article, not even a major headline, *May want to remove for academic audience but good pt.* nothing special. The title read "Court Refuses to Delay Suffrage". A look deeper into this article reveals that it is not in support to the decision to ratify the nineteenth amendment, but rather a news article covering the protests and anticipated appeals to the decision. "Opponents of woman suffrage today made their last stand against the nineteenth amendment. They appeared before Justice Frederick L. Siddons in the District of Columbia Supreme Court and asked for an injunction to restrain Secretary of State Colby from issuing a proclamation declaring the amendment ratified by the required 36 states (Court 1)," was the opening and basic premise for the single article covering the issue of women's suffrage. Thankfully, media coverage and bias on women's political issues has changed and evolved with our society. *analyze quote for article more*

*your focus is on politics so transition would be more effective focused on this rather than this "thing"*  
 Another significant event in the women's movement is the confirmation of Sandra Day O'Connor to the U.S. Supreme Court on September 22, 1981. O'Connor was the first woman appointed and confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The vote confirming O'Connor was 99-0 (with one senator out of town not participating) so she was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. This issue received much more media attention in the New York Times than did the issuance of women's suffrage. Her nomination was featured on the front page of the New York Times on July 8, 1981 and her confirmation hearing/debate was featured as well as her nomination on September 22, 1981 in an article entitled "Senate Confirms Judge O'Connor; She Will Join High Court Friday." There is a picture of her and the president outside the capital and the illustrates *comment directly on this - what does it say abt evolution of media?*

*ok - comment on how we may have progressed*



the significance of her confirmation. President Reagan is quoted in the article "the confirmation symbolizes the richness of opportunity that still abides in America for persons of any sex, age, or race, from every section and every walk of life" (Greenhouse 1). When compared to the coverage of the suffrage movement this event did receive much better media coverage. This is evidence that the times are changing and that as our society grows and becomes more diverse and open to change, that things will continue in the right direction.

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impressive  
how he uses  
the example of  
one white man  
to count  
for every three

statements at end general

In more recent news, the nomination and confirmation of Condeleezza Rice as Secretary of State is a monumental event in the women's movement. Rice is the first African American woman to serve as Secretary of State. The Condoleezza Rice story was all over the newspapers and television broadcasts. While each article had a slightly different message or bias when covering these events, they were all fairly positive in respect to women's advancements in the political field. One such article praised Condeleezza as one of the best politicians to ever serve as Secretary of State "Condi will restore the prestige and status of the Secretary of State" (Starobin 2). Although Rice has received respect and praise of many of her colleagues she has been faced with obstacles. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, whom Rice works closely with, is mostly-male and mostly-white. The members of the committee have taken to considering her to be their Cinderella, and see her in a protective and romantic setting (Starobin 6). While there are still stereotypes and labels thrown around, the positive aspects of the Condeleezza Rice story far outweigh the negatives. According to Republican Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, Condoleezza is "someone all of America can be proud of" (Starobin

now -  
will want  
to analyze  
this more

r-o

perhaps, but ignoring the  
negatives or dismissing them so quickly  
takes away from your argument

5).

There are many things happening in the world of politics that are more recent advancements for women that receive the same or more news coverage the same issues of men's politics. If you just look at the moment, it can be easy to feel like women and other minorities in politics are not advancing, but when looking back over the past 85 years it is amazing to see how far we as an entire society have come.

— do we still need to do things?

I like your trace throughout history. I'll want to focus on paper. And don't be afraid to critique the situation. That's the thing. The Thesis. Throughout your paper, you might consider if the more improved. Too. You might consider if the stories of a common & rare apply to all. Be especially lower class w & w of color. Be careful that celebrating advances doesn't make you forget to research other voices. But good start.

### Works Cited

"Court Refuses to Delay Suffrage." New York Times 26 Aug. 1920: A1.

Greenhouse, Linda. "Senate Confirms Judge O'Connor; She Will Join High Court  
Friday." New York Times 22 Sept. 1981: A1+.

Starobin, Paul. "The Condi Paradox." National Journal. 37.4 (2005): 266-272.

Microform  
Assignment

English 201

April 26, 2005

**Women in the Media: Today and Yesterday** - Final Draft

The media has become America's primary source for gaining information about the world we live in. We look to the daily news cast and newspaper for the latest weather, sports, local events, national and global news, and most of all politics. If it were not for the media, the average American would have very little knowledge about elections, political candidates, court decisions, and other governmental happenings. In this day and age a huge part of news reporting includes political coverage, oftentimes to the extreme that it is all you hear about. In the midst of a nearing election, monumental court decision, or political scandal we can hardly help from turning on the television and hearing about it or seeing it on the front page of every newspaper. While today there is this abundance of information and exposure to politics and government, the coverage presented is no where near equal or unbiased. Often times, female candidates do not receive the media attention and coverage that their male competitors do, making it difficult for them to be known by the general public, and especially challenging to be elected.

Historically, there have been many tremendous advancements in women's rights and political involvement. For example, in 1920 women were granted the right to vote, however they were the last segment of our population given this right. On August 26, 1920 the 19th amendment was ratified giving women everywhere the right to vote. One

would think that this was a landmark event in politics, that it would be all over the news and there would be no getting away from it. When, in reality this event was not publicized to quite that degree. In the New York Times, a highly respected newspaper, there was one article about women's suffrage on August 27, 1920. One insignificant article without so much as a major headline. The title read "Court Refuses to Delay Suffrage". A deeper look into this article reveals that it is not in support of the decision to ratify the nineteenth amendment, but rather a news article covering the protests and anticipated appeals to the decision. The opening and basic premise for the article was, "Opponents of woman suffrage today made their last stand against the nineteenth amendment. They appeared before Justice Frederick L. Siddons in the District of Columbia Supreme Court and asked for an injunction to restrain Secretary of State Colby from issuing a proclamation declaring the amendment ratified by the required 36 states (Court 1)." This was the only viewpoint expressed in in the one and only article covering the issue of women's suffrage in the United States. No where in the entire newspaper were the positive aspects of this amendment highlighted or discussed. This negative bias is evidence of the national attitude towards women being involved in the government. Voting is one of the simplest ways to be involved in politics, yet many were still not convinced women were capable of doing so. Another way to analyze public attitudes about gender equality and differences is to look at what else was in the news and what was being advertised to men and women at this time. One advertisement from the same day women were granted suffrage that was specifically for women was for handbags and rhinestone pendants. The advertisement claims that the jewelry and accessories will win every woman's desire and accentuate her beauty. Here is that advertisement:

excellent addition!  
 really too  
 cute for  
 your  
 point

## Crescent Mesh Bags

—On display in the Saks  
Jewelry Department Thursday



At \$55

As filmy as fine old lace is its green-gold mesh, with pretty edging in floral effect. Its odd but very charming frame would win any woman's admiration, its . . . . . but we would rather have you see it. *Then* only can you fully appreciate its exclusiveness and beauty. *Pictured.*

Rhinestone Sautoir  
Pendants, Special \$5

In designs that are exact duplicates of costly platinum and diamond pieces. Bowknot design, attached to silk cord with rhinestone slide.

Main Floor



Another advertisement printed on the same day was one aimed at boys. It was an

advertisement for "back to school" clothes for boys. Interestingly there was no mention

in the whole newspaper that girls too would be going back to school soon. Here is that

advertisement:

*"Back to school" means new clothes  
for the boys*

**B**ACK to school" may seem a little hard after vacation. It's easier on the boys if they go back with stylish new clothes. It's easier on father and mother if they buy good clothes; they won't have to buy so often.

*Our clothes have the true boy style; and the quality that saves money; boys' clothes "as good as father's" Satisfaction guaranteed or money back*

News stories on the same day included an article about Edward R. Stettinius's (former

surveyor general) appendicitis; This article had a large headline on the center of the front page of *The New York Times*. Also on the front page was an article about tax increases in our countries major cities. These two seemingly insignificant issues were each given more publicity and emphasis than the constitutional amendment giving women the right to vote.

*better transition*

Since women were granted the right to vote, they have progressed in the realm of politics. For example, the confirmation of Sandra Day O'Connor to the U.S. Supreme Court on September 22, 1981. O'Connor was the first woman appointed and confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The vote confirming O'Connor was 99-0 (with one senator out of town not participating) so, she was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. This issue received much more media attention in the New York Times than did the issuance of women's suffrage. Her nomination was featured on the front page of the New York Times on July 8, 1981 and her confirmation hearing/debate was featured as well as her nomination on September 22, 1981 in an article entitled "Senate Confirms Judge O'Connor; She Will Join High Court Friday." There is a picture of her with the president outside the capital and the article illustrates the significance of her confirmation. President Reagan is quoted in the article as saying, "the confirmation symbolizes the richness of opportunity that still abides in America for persons of any sex, age, or race, from every section and every walk of life" (Greenhouse 1). It is interesting that he uses the example of one white woman to represent advancements and opportunity for everyone in America. When compared to the coverage of the suffrage movement this event did receive much better media coverage. However there is still evidence of extreme bias and sexism in other articles and advertisements on this day as well. On the business page of

the paper there was an article about the national deficit, and pictures of some former presidents. In the entire business section of the paper, there was not a single photograph or article about woman business person. These were the faces on the business page:



This is evidence that while women were making advancements, they were still far beyond men in many aspects of society.

As our society grows and becomes more diverse women are continuing to advance in the world of government and politics. Recently Condoleezza Rice was appointed Secretary of State, which was a significant event in the progression of women's political involvement. While there still has never been a woman president, we are slowly moving forward towards more equal and just government representation. Yet, until societies viewpoints, prejudices, and stereotypes are overcome women will not be equally represented; and as long as women continue to allow themselves to be silenced things cannot change.

*Nice selection of sources to prove your point. Interesting # as if Rice # - could I have used your for research paper. Will want to work on some colloquial language as # structure*



### Works Cited

"Court Refuses to Delay Suffrage." New York Times 26 Aug. 1920: A1.

Greenhouse, Linda. "Senate Confirms Judge O'Connor; She Will Join High Court  
Friday." New York Times 22 Sept. 1981: A1+.

## Research Paper

This research paper is a culmination of all of the work you have done so far this semester. As stated in class, you may choose to expand on one paper only, or to combine information from two or three of your shorter papers. Be forewarned that simply dropping in entire paragraphs and pages from a shorter paper *will not work*. A longer paper indicates that your argument is more complex. Regardless of whether you are expanding one, two, or three papers, you will not simply be able to add another four pages to your original paper or drop in entire paragraphs from multiple papers. Your thesis will have to change to accommodate the additional finesse of your paper, the order in which you present the information may have to be reconsidered, transitions reworked, and you will need to take out some details and add others. You undoubtedly will need additional sources, but refrain from the temptation to simply add them on at the end. Your paper will flow more smoothly if your new sources add to the conversation that you began with your original sources (i.e., if you use them in conjunction to support a point). So even though you are working on the same topic as other papers, your research paper will be significantly different from any of the shorter papers (which, remember, must stand alone as papers for the Portfolio).

### Purpose of Paper

Remember that you began this process with a question, and that your answer to this question will do more than simply inform a particular audience. You are crafting an argument so that your audience can *do* something with your information and your research, in part because you want them to think a certain way or take a certain course of action. In addition, you are becoming a researcher in your own right—you are entering the profession of your field and contributing in significant ways to the conversations in your field. Therefore, an informative paper would be inappropriate because your readers could essentially get the same information from your sources. This paper provides you with the opportunity to add your critical thinking skills, your analysis, to the situation at hand.

### Requirements

The paper must meet all of the following criteria:

- Have an argumentative thesis—the paper cannot be a report.
- Include at least **one** primary source, such as an interview, advertisement, government document, newspaper articles (if used historically), etc., and at least **four** secondary (peer reviewed) sources such as journal articles and book chapters.
- Rely on at least five sources (as you could tell from above). There is no magic number of sources that will make a good paper. Think of it this way: you need to have enough sources to prove your point. If you have 10 sources and still have a gap in your argument, you need to include more. If you have 5 sources and your argument is beautifully supported, you do not need any more. For the future, a good rule of thumb is to think of having one source for every two pages, plus an additional source (this “rule” changes when you begin to write significantly longer papers).
- Be between 8-12 pages (no shorter and no longer, please).
- Properly cite all of your sources according to the format of your choice (MLA, APA, etc.). This includes having a properly formatted Works Cited page. Follow all other formatting guidelines for your style, such as headings, title pages, etc.

## Make it a Woman's World

Research  
Paper  
- Peer Draft

1

There are many venues in which a person can be involved in the world of politics. They range from simply being a registered voter, working on a grass roots campaign, lobbying, becoming involved with an interest group or political action committee, as well as the many levels of elected office. While there are these different routes to get involved, women face many more obstacles along the way than do their male counterparts. There are many stereotypes and double standards of women that have developed throughout history. These inhibitors have prevented many women from becoming active members of political society. Many countries have significantly more men than women involved in politics, but the United States' level of female political participation is much lower than that of other industrialized nations.

*Trag* The United States has always encouraged other developing nations to develop democratic government systems with equal representation among various groups in societies, but does a poor job of teaching by example. The White House Project released a study showing that the U.S. ranked 52<sup>nd</sup> out of 179 countries in the percentage of women serving in lower houses of their legislatures and/or parliaments (Wilson 1). Since women were granted suffrage in the United States in 1920, they have made a great deal of progress in the world of politics. In 1932, Hattie Wyatt Caraway was the first woman to win an election in her own right to the U.S. Senate. In 1974, Ella Grasso was the first woman to be elected governor. One of the biggest things to ever happen for U.S. women in politics was in 1984 when Geraldine Ferraro became the first female major party vice-presidential candidate. Since this breakthrough, no woman has held this nomination or that of a major party presidential candidate. Then in 1997, Madeline Albright became the

Thesis  
?

highest ranking woman in United States history when Clinton named her Secretary of State. Condoleezza Rice then became the first woman to be the National Security Advisor to the president in 2001 (Barnello 15). These were all huge "firsts" for women involved in politics in the United States, but still do not come close to some women's politics in other countries.

Secretary  
of State

Expand. transition

There are many possible explanations as to why women's political involvement is so low in the United States and in other countries. When trying to understand this phenomenon one must look back in history. Throughout the course of history there have been certain gender roles and norms of behavior that have been expected of men and women. These different roles were established far before any history books were written or political establishments developed. Back in the founding days of our nation it was expected for the women of a household to stay at home and tend to the daily tasks of running a home and raising a family. This poem is an example of what was expected of women in the household:

*The way to a man's heart*  
 ↑ (NO SPACE)  
*So we've always been told,*  
*Is a good working knowledge*  
*Of pot, pan, and mold.*  
*The talented gal*  
*Who can whip up a pie,*  
*Rates a well deserved rave*  
*From her favorite guy.*  
*A juicy red steak,*  
*Or a tender, fish fillet*  
*Done to a turn In a bright copper skillet*  
*Will soothe the rough edges*  
*Of tempers, no fooling! !!*  
*And leave the man happy*  
*Contented and drooling.*  
 -1956

This poem came from the cookbook "To The Bride," by Betty Friedan in 1956. Once

women were allowed to actually work outside the home, they were constricted to "female jobs". These jobs included being a teacher, nurse, seamstress, caregiver, and maid.

*cite 3/ or  
expand*

Women were not allowed to do any kind of work that required too much education. It was believed that if a women were to receive too much education it could possibly be detrimental to her health and well being. It was not until much later that women were allowed to work in the man's world. It took decades upon decades of women's rights movements and legislation before women were allowed to attend many colleges and universities. It also took a lot of fighting to secure equal wages and benefits for women in the workforce. Because these standards and gender roles were established so early in history it has been hard for women to work for change.

*govt doc  
expand*

*transition*

Because so many women were excluded from involvement in politics early on, there are not very many role models in politics for women. This makes many women feel discouraged and not welcome in the world of politics. The fact that there are not many women to look up in politics makes many women feel they don't belong in politics.

*White House  
Proj.*

Also, it is difficult to find a mentor in politics for women. If more women get involved in politics, it will guarantee a brighter future for more women in politics. As a result of all this history and low rates of involvement, many stereotypes have developed about women in politics.

One of the biggest stereotypes of women involved in politics is that all women running for office are democrats. This stereotype has evolved about the Democratic party and women mainly because of the parties stance on women's issues like healthcare and abortion. These beliefs about women being democratic also lead people to believe that all women have the same beliefs and values, thus the same political ideology. This

*Family  
Education  
"compassion"*

*Not assumed  
for men,  
except @ war  
times.*

stereotype turns many voters away from women candidates because they think that women are really firm in their beliefs and will not compromise on certain hot button issues. There are also beliefs that women have a better ability to connect with voters and their constituents. <sup>elaborate & transition to quote</sup> "Men, were told, value self-reliance and toughness, so they want a government that maintains military strength and isn't overly generous with welfare programs, while women value compassion and caring, so they favor a government that helps people" (Young 2). This stereotype doesn't really hurt women candidates but it does play on the ideas of women being nurturers and caregivers. If women want to make a serious impact in politics they need to get away from all the stereotypes. *Equality/democracy.*

There are also many stereotypes that assume all women running for office are feminists and anti-men. This stereotype really dissuades people from supporting women in politics. They start to believe that women are trying to completely take over government and get rid of all male leadership. There are also stereotypes that women are soft and gentle so they can't deal with the roughness of politics. This makes voters skittish of female candidates because they think women will back down and not stand up for important issues. <sup>war!</sup> There are also ideas that women can't fully comprehend the complexity of governmental institutions and political ideas. Along with these many stereotypes there are also many double standards about men and women in politics.

A big double standard of women in politics is media bias. The media coverage of women's political campaigns has a huge slant towards fashion and appearance. The focus of many news stories about female politicians is what they wore to a fundraiser or how they style their hair. This is not the case for their male counterparts. Men running for office receive media attention because of their political ideas and policy issues. This

is unfair for many women because they never really get a chance to publicize their political ideology. Many women are unfairly judged this way and not given the chance to properly represent themselves. A perfect example of this double standard in action was when Elizabeth Dole was campaigning for a presidential nomination in 2000. The White House Project followed her media coverage and determined that she received almost all of her media attention about personality and fashion while George W. Bush, John McCain, and Steve Forbes all received media attention about policy issues and political ideology (Wilson 2). Another thing that causes a double standard for women in politics is family. The public is made to believe that a female politician should not have a family. *or Perfect Family.* This is also done mainly through media coverage and bias. There is always question as to whether or not a woman with a husband and/or children can fulfill their duties in government without letting their family lives interfere. This type of judgment is not usually found of a male politician. This double standard makes it hard for women to get elected, because voters think they will not be able to do a complete job when in office. Another family related double standard of women is that if they do have families they should be perfect. This is also true for men in politics, but women are scrutinized much more. One example of this today is the scandal involving George W. Bush's twin daughters. There are many reports that the teens have been in trouble for under age drinking, drunken driving, and drugs. One report included an interview with celebrity Ashton Kutcher who claimed the twins, Barbara and Jenna drank with him at a party, then went back to his place and smoked Marijuana (Thomas 1). The White House has ignored these reports and all the allegations about the twins have been seemingly swept under the rug. Bush has since proclaimed a "No Twins Policy" for media coverage, claiming that

they need privacy and do not wish to live under the public eye. This is unfair for women because, the public believes that if a woman has trouble with her children or spouse, then it reflects weakly on her character. They then believe that if a woman can not control her own family, she can surely not control or manage a city, state, or country. This double standard or way of judgment stems from the gender roles and social standards of our history. It was typical for women to run the household and manage the family, thus that stereotype is still in people's minds and they expect women to be in control of their families, children in particular. While all politicians are judged harshly and examined under a microscope it seems women are always looked at more closely or from unfair angles. Women have come a long way over the past 100 years in politics, and are continuing to increase their presence in governmental institutions.

There will always probably be stereotypes and double standards of women in our society, it surely isn't something that is going to change overnight. Just as we continue to fight racism and other forms of prejudice and mis-judgment, this will always be a battle in our society. Women are strong and can overcome all these obstacles set up for them in politics, it just won't always be easy.



Overall: • Transitions & "flow"

- Holes in argument &/or research.
- ~~Development~~ Development of thesis argument.

**Make it a Woman's World**

Research Paper  
Peer Draft

1

There are many venues in which a person can be involved in the world of politics. They range from simply being a registered voter, working on a grass roots campaign, lobbying, becoming involved with an interest group or political action committee, as well as the many levels of elected office. While there are these different routes to get involved, women face many more obstacles along the way than do their male counterparts. There are many stereotypes and double standards of women that have developed throughout history. These inhibitors have prevented many women from becoming active members of political society. Many countries have significantly more men than women involved in politics, but the United States' level of female political participation is much lower than that of other industrialized nations.

• ways to  
strengthen  
introduction

The United States is a country built on the principles of freedom, equality and <sup>true</sup> ~~true~~ democracy. According to one definition in the American Heritage Dictionary, democracy is "the principles of social equality and respect for the individual within a community,...[and] Government by the people, exercised by elected representatives." Lately, the United States has encouraged many Middle Eastern countries and other developing to build democratic government systems with equal representation among various groups in societies, but does a poor job of teaching by example. In the recent Iraqi elections the United States<sup>3</sup> government has strived to get both the Shiites and the Sunnis participating equally in the formulation and development of their countries new government; while in our own country the government does not seem terribly concerned that women are grossly under-represented in the United States government. The White

House Project released a study showing that the U.S. ranked 52<sup>nd</sup> out of 179 countries in the percentage of women serving in lower houses of their legislatures and/or parliaments (Wilson 1). Since women were granted suffrage in the United States in 1920, they have made a great deal of progress in the world of politics. In 1932, Hattie Wyatt Caraway was the first woman to win an election in her own right to the U.S. Senate. In 1974, Ella Grasso was the first woman to be elected governor. One of the biggest things to ever happen for U.S. women in politics was in 1984 when Geraldine Ferraro became the first female major party vice-presidential candidate. Since this breakthrough, no woman has held this nomination or that of a major party presidential candidate. Then in 1997, Madeline Albright became the highest ranking woman in United States history when Clinton named her Secretary of State. Condoleezza Rice then became the first woman to be the National Security Advisor to the president in 2001 (Barnello 15). The most recent advancement for women was this year when Condoleezza Rice was appointed and confirmed Secretary of State. These were all huge "firsts" for women involved in politics in the United States, but still do not come close to some women's politics in other countries.

• Transition better.

There are many possible explanations as to why women's political involvement is so low in the United States and in other countries. When trying to understand this phenomenon one must look back in history. Throughout the course of history there have been certain gender roles and norms of behavior that have been expected of men and women. These different roles were established far before any history books were written or political establishments developed. <sup>①</sup> ~~Back~~ <sup>②</sup> in the founding days of our nation it was expected for the women of a household to stay at home and tend to the daily tasks of

Could use some better transitioning from ① to ②. You go from "ancient" days all the way to current day U.S.

running a home and raising a family. This poem is an example of what was expected of women in the household:

*The way to a man's heart  
So we've always been told,  
Is a good working knowledge  
Of pot, pan, and mold.  
The talented gal  
Who can whip up a pie,  
Rates a well deserved rave  
From her favorite guy.  
A juicy red steak,  
Or a tender, fish fillet  
Done to a turn In a bright copper skillet  
Will soothe the rough edges  
Of tempers, no fooling! !!  
And leave the man happy  
Contented and drooling.  
-1956*

This poem came from the cookbook "To The Bride," by Betty Friedan in 1956. Once women were allowed to actually work outside the home, they were constricted to "female jobs". These jobs included being a teacher, nurse, seamstress, caregiver, and maid.

Women were not allowed to do any kind of work that required too much education. It was believed that if a women were to receive too much education it could possibly be detrimental to her health and well being. It was not until much later that women were allowed to work in the man's world. It took decades upon decades of women's rights movements and legislation before women were allowed to attend many colleges and universities. It also took a lot of fighting to secure equal wages and benefits for women in the workforce. Because these standards and gender roles were established so early in history it has been hard for women to work for change.

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← maybe add specifics  
on how we got  
to here.

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Also, it is difficult to find a mentor in politics for women. If more women get involved in politics, it will guarantee a brighter future for more women in politics. As a result of all this history and low rates of involvement, many stereotypes have developed about women in politics.

One of the biggest stereotypes of women involved in politics is that all women running for office are democrats. This stereotype has evolved about the Democratic party and women mainly because of the parties stance on women's issues like healthcare and abortion. These beliefs about women being democratic also lead people to believe that all women have the same beliefs and values, thus the same political ideology. This stereotype turns many voters away from women candidates because they think that women are really firm in their beliefs and will not compromise on certain hot button issues. There are also beliefs that women have a better ability to connect with voters and their constituents. "Men, were told, value self-reliance and toughness, so they want a government that maintains military strength and isn't overly generous with welfare programs, while women value compassion and caring, so they favor a government that helps people" (Young 2). This stereotype doesn't really hurt women candidates but it does play on the ideas of women being nurturers and caregivers. If women want to make a serious impact in politics they need to get away from all the stereotypes.

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government and get rid of all male leadership. There are also stereotypes that women are soft and gentle so they can't deal with the roughness of politics. This makes voters skittish of female candidates because they think women will back down and not stand up for important issues. There are also ideas that women can't fully comprehend the complexity of governmental institutions and political ideas. Along with these many stereotypes there are also many double standards about men and women in politics.

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usually found of a male politician. This double standard makes it hard for women to get elected, because voters think they will not be able to do a complete job when in office.

Another family related double standard of women is that if they do have families they should be perfect. This is also true for men in politics, but women are scrutinized much more. One example of this today is the scandal involving George W. Bush's twin daughters. There are many reports that the teens have been in trouble for under age drinking, drunken driving, and drugs. One report included an interview with celebrity Ashton Kutcher who claimed the twins, Barbara and Jenna drank with him at a party, then went back to his place and smoked Marijuana (Thomas 1). The White House has ignored these reports and all the allegations about the twins have been seemingly swept under the rug. Bush has since proclaimed a "No Twins Policy" for media coverage, claiming that they need privacy and do not wish to live under the public eye. This is unfair for women because, the public believes that if a women has trouble with her children or spouse, then it reflects weakly on her character.<sup>2 - where does this come from</sup> They then believe that if a woman can not control her own family, she can surely not control or manage a city, state, or country. This double standard or way of judgment stems from the gender roles and social standards of our history. It was typical for women to run the household and manage the family, thus that stereotype is still in people's minds and they expect women to be in control of their families, children in particular. While all politicians are judged harshly and examined under a microscope it seems women are always looked at more closely or from unfair angles. Women have come a long way over the past 100 years in politics, and are continuing to increase their presence in governmental institutions. *Doesn't quite fit here?*

There will always probably be stereotypes and double standards of women in our

suggest  
ways to  
improve /  
build my  
conclusion

society, it surely isn't something that is going to change overnight. Just as we continue to fight racism and other forms of prejudice and mis-judgment, this will always be a battle in our society. Women are strong and can overcome all these obstacles set up for them in politics, it just won't always be easy.

· Would a "Call to action" be appropriate?

· Need to address the "so what" question.

- Do I adequately address the  
"So what?" Question.

1

1

n

- Transitions *right start, need specifics*

1

- Holes in Arguments, places where  
I need more information.

English 201

April 14, 2005

- Introduction and conclusion.

**Make it a Woman's World**

*Research Paper*  
- Submission Draft

There are many venues in which a person can be involved in the world of politics. They range from simply being a registered voter, working on a grass roots campaign, lobbying, becoming involved with an interest group or political action committee, as well as the many levels of elected office. While there are these different routes to get involved, women face many more obstacles along the way than do their male counterparts. There are many stereotypes and double standards of women that have developed throughout history. These inhibitors have prevented many women from becoming active members of political society. Many countries have significantly more men than women involved in politics, but the United States' level of female political participation is much lower than that of other industrialized nations.

*good*

*interesting  
good progression*

The United States is a country built on the principles of freedom, equality and true democracy. According to one definition in the American Heritage Dictionary, democracy is "the principles of social equality and respect for the individual within a community,...[and] Government by the people, exercised by elected representatives."

*never use dictionary  
definitions in a college  
paper! Too  
general  
& can assume  
audience knows the  
term*

Lately, the United States has encouraged many Middle Eastern countries and other developing to build democratic government systems with equal representation among various groups in societies, but does a poor job of teaching by example. In the recent Iraqi elections the United States government has strived to get both the Shiites and the

*excellent*



Sunnis participating equally in the formulation and development of their countries new government; while in our own country the government does not seem terribly concerned that women are grossly under represented in the United States government. Our democracy and the foundation of our country is seriously flawed in the sense that our government does not have equal representation according to the national population, nor is our government overly concerned with correcting the matter. The White House Project released a study showing that the U.S. ranked 52<sup>nd</sup> out of 179 countries in the percentage of women serving in lower houses of their legislatures and/or parliaments (Wilson 1).

Since women were granted suffrage in the United States in 1920, they have made a great deal of progress in the world of politics. In 1932, Hattie Wyatt Caraway was the first woman to win an election in her own right to the U.S. Senate. In 1974, Ella Grasso was the first woman to be elected governor. One of the biggest things to ever happen for U.S. women in politics was in 1984 when Geraldine Ferraro became the first female major party vice-presidential candidate. Since this breakthrough, no woman has held this nomination or that of a major party presidential candidate. Then in 1997, Madeline Albright became the highest ranking woman in United States history when Clinton named her Secretary of State. Condoleezza Rice then became the first woman to be the National Security Advisor to the president in 2001 (Barnello 15). The most recent advancement for women was this year when Condoleezza Rice was appointed and confirmed Secretary of State. These were all huge "firsts" for women involved in politics in the United States, but still do not come close to some women's politics in other countries.

There are many possible explanations as to why women's political involvement is so low in the United States and in other countries. When trying to understand this

removed since we expect  
you to discuss this with

phenomenon one must look back in history. Throughout the course of history there have been certain gender roles and norms of behavior that have been expected of men and women. These different roles were established far before any history books were written or political establishments developed. Back in the founding days of our nation it was expected for the women of a household to stay at home and tend to the daily tasks of running a home and raising a family. This poem is an example of what was expected of women in the household:

*The way to a man's heart  
So we've always been told,  
Is a good working knowledge  
Of pot, pan, and mold.  
The talented gal  
Who can whip up a pie,  
Rates a well deserved rave  
From her favorite guy.  
A juicy red steak,  
Or a tender, fish fillet  
Done to a turn In a bright copper skillet  
Will soothe the rough edges  
Of tempers, no fooling! !!  
And leave the man happy  
Contented and drooling.  
-1956*

This poem came from the cookbook "To The Bride," by Betty Friedan in 1956. Once women were allowed to actually work outside the home, they were constricted to "female jobs". These jobs included being a teacher, nurse, seamstress, caregiver, and maid. Women were not allowed to do any kind of work that required too much education. It was believed that if a women were to receive too much education it could possibly be detrimental to her health and well being. It was not until much later that women were allowed to work in the man's world. It took decades upon decades of women's rights

info. fine  
but since  
it is fairly  
well known  
your paper  
would be  
stronger  
to perhaps  
only mention it  
if then  
focus on polit.  
involvement of  
w (since that  
is what makes  
your paper so  
gender so  
unique)

movements and legislation before women were allowed to attend many colleges and universities. It also took a lot of fighting to secure equal wages and benefits for women in the workforce. Because these standards and gender roles were established so early in history it has been hard for women to work for change.

This might be perhaps 1 of a few sentences as you keep

Because so many women were excluded from involvement in politics early on, there are not very many role models in politics for women. This makes many women feel discouraged and not welcome in the world of politics. The fact that there are not many women to look up in politics makes many women feel they don't belong in politics.

support would really help develop this - otherwise seems like speculation (although probably true)

Also, it is difficult to find a mentor in politics for women. If more women get involved in politics, it will guarantee a brighter future for more women in politics. As a result of all this history and low rates of involvement, many stereotypes have developed about women in politics.

really? source? (rise to mind)

One of the biggest stereotypes of women involved in politics is that all women running for office are democrats. This stereotype has evolved about the Democratic party and women mainly because of the parties stance on women's issues like healthcare and abortion. These beliefs about women being democratic also lead people to believe that all women have the same beliefs and values, thus the same political ideology. This stereotype turns many voters away from women candidates because they think that women are really firm in their beliefs and will not compromise on certain hot button

ok

issues. There are also beliefs that women have a better ability to connect with voters and their constituents. "Men, were told, value self-reliance and toughness, so they want a government that maintains military strength and isn't overly generous with welfare programs, while women value compassion and caring, so they favor a government that

introduce both quote 3: author here - does Young have any credibility?

helps people" (Young 2). This stereotype doesn't really hurt women candidates but it does play on the ideas of women being nurturers and caregivers. If women want to make a serious impact in politics they need to get away from all the stereotypes.

There are also many stereotypes that assume all women running for office are feminists and anti-men. This stereotype really dissuades people from supporting women in politics. They start to believe that women are trying to completely take over government and get rid of all male leadership. There are also stereotypes that women are soft and gentle so they can't deal with the roughness of politics. This makes voters skittish of female candidates because they think women will back down and not stand up for important issues. There are also ideas that women can't fully comprehend the complexity of governmental institutions and political ideas. Along with these many stereotypes there are also many double standards about men and women in politics.

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support

good  
This would  
be an excellent  
place to analyze  
newsclips, pictures  
etc

specifics?

McCain, and Steve Forbes all received media attention about policy issues and political ideology (Wilson 2). *note how connections of #s are weaker* Another thing that causes a double standard for women in politics is family. The public is made to believe that a female politician should not have a family.

*The Mom in sneakers (can't remember name)* This is also done mainly through media coverage and bias. There is always question as to whether or not a woman with a husband and/or children can fulfill their duties in government without letting their family lives interfere. This type of judgment is not usually found of a male politician. This double standard makes it hard for women to get elected, because voters think they will not be able to do a complete job when in office. *lets the audience know you #s could have come in any order but you wouldnt show a specific order*

Another family related double standard of women is that if they do have families they should be perfect. This is also true for men in politics, but women are scrutinized much more. One example of this today is the scandal involving George W. Bush's twin daughters. There are many reports that the teens have been in trouble for under age drinking, drunken driving, and drugs. One report included an interview with celebrity Ashton Kutcher who claimed the twins, Barbara and Jenna drank with him at a party, then went back to his place and smoked Marijuana (Thomas 1). The White House has ignored these reports and all the allegations about the twins have been seemingly swept under the rug. Bush has since proclaimed a "No Twins Policy" for media coverage, claiming that they need privacy and do not wish to live under the public eye. This is unfair for women because, the public believes that if a women has trouble with her children or spouse, then it reflects weakly on her character. They then believe that if a woman can not control her own family, she can surely not control or manage a city, state, or country. This double standard or way of judgment stems from the gender roles and social standards of our history. It was typical for women to run the household and manage the family, thus that

stereotype is still in people's minds and they expect women to be in control of their families, children in particular. While all politicians are judged harshly and examined under a microscope it seems women are always looked at more closely or from unfair angles. Women have come a long way over the past 100 years in politics, and are continuing to increase their presence in governmental institutions.

There will always probably be stereotypes and double standards of women in our society, it surely isn't something that is going to change overnight. As women it is our constitutional duty to be actively concerned and involved citizens. It is our right to be represented in our government and it is our responsibility to make it happen. Just as we continue to fight racism and other forms of prejudice and mis-judgment, this will always be a battle facing our society. Women are strong. We can and will overcome all the obstacles set up for us in politics.

after doesn't  
early into  
this

Arguments are fine  
but w/o support they  
pull short - too easy to argue  
against + very general. I was also  
hoping that you would talk more a/b the roles  
of the politicians themselves. For example, for Disle  
& the lady who ran for Pres. last year, what specifically  
were people saying?

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English 201

April 26, 2005

Research Paper

**Make it a Woman's World** - Final Draft

There are many venues in which a person can be involved in the world of politics. They range from simply being a registered voter, working on a grass roots campaign, lobbying, becoming involved with an interest group or political action committee, as well as the many levels of elected office. While there are these different routes to get involved, women face many more obstacles along the way than do their male counterparts. There are many stereotypes and double standards of women that have developed throughout history. These inhibitors have prevented many women from becoming active members of political society. Many countries have significantly more men than women involved in politics, but the United States' level of female political participation is much lower than that of other industrialized nations.

✓ The United States is a country built on the principles of freedom, equality and true democracy. The basic fundamentals of democracy is a government of equal representation of the people. Lately, the United States has encouraged many Middle Eastern countries and other developing to build democratic government systems with equal representation among various groups in societies, but does a poor job of teaching by example. In the recent Iraqi elections the United States government has strived to get both the Shiites and the Sunnis participating equally in the formulation and development of their country's new government; while in our own country the government does not



seem terribly concerned that women are grossly under represented in the United States government. Our democracy and the foundation of our country is seriously flawed in the sense that our government does not have equal representation according to the national population, nor is our government overly concerned with correcting the matter. The media and male politicians tend to use the election or appointment of one woman to a political office to show that women are equally represented in government. The White House Project released a study showing that the U.S. ranked 52<sup>nd</sup> out of 179 countries in the percentage of women serving in lower houses of their legislatures and/or parliaments (Wilson 1). Since women were granted suffrage in the United States in 1920, they have made a great deal of progress in the world of politics. In 1932, Hattie Wyatt Caraway was the first woman to win an election in her own right to the U.S. Senate. In 1974, Ella Grasso was the first woman to be elected governor. One of the biggest things to ever happen for U.S. women in politics was in 1984 when Geraldine Ferraro became the first female major party vice-presidential candidate. Since this breakthrough, no woman has held this nomination or that of a major party presidential candidate. Then in 1997, Madeline Albright became the highest ranking woman in United States history when Clinton named her Secretary of State ("Women's Firsts..." 1). Condoleezza Rice then became the first woman to be the National Security Advisor to the president in 2001 (Barnello 15). The most recent advancement for women was this year when Condoleezza Rice was appointed and confirmed Secretary of State. Rice's entrance to the political arena was even more significant since she is a woman of color. She had to overcome even more obstacles and criticism than most white women in the government have. These were all huge "firsts" for women involved in politics in the United States, they are

not convincing or indicative that women are equal in our nation's government.

There are many possible explanations as to why women's political involvement is so low in the United State. When trying to understand this phenomenon one must look back in history. Throughout the course of history there have been certain gender roles and norms of behavior that have been expected of men and women. These different roles were established far before any history books were written or political establishments developed. Back in the founding days of our nation it was expected for the women of a household to stay at home and tend to the daily tasks of running a home and raising a family. This poem is an example of what was expected of women in the household:

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-1956*

This poem came from the cookbook "To The Bride," by Betty Friedan in 1956. Once women were allowed to actually work outside the home, they were constricted to "female jobs". These jobs included being a teacher, nurse, seamstress, caregiver, and maid. Women were not allowed to do any kind of work that required too much education. It was believed that if a women were to receive too much education it could possibly be

detrimental to her health and well being. It was not until much later that women were allowed to work in the man's world. It took decades upon decades of women's rights movements and legislation before women were allowed to attend many colleges and universities. It also took a lot of fighting to secure equal wages and benefits for women in the workforce. Because these standards and gender roles were established so early in history it has been hard for women to work for change.

Because so many women were excluded from involvement in politics early on, there are not very many role models in politics for women. This makes many women feel discouraged and not welcome in the world of politics. According to a study in Political Science and Politics, the percentage of women represented in the United States government is approximately 22 percent. The percentage of minority women represented in the government is even lower, closer to seven percent (Rule 231). The fact that there are not many women to look up in politics makes many women feel they don't belong in politics. Also, it is difficult to find a mentor in politics for women. If more women get involved in politics, it will guarantee a brighter future for more women in politics. As a result of all this history and low rates of involvement, many stereotypes have developed about women in politics.

One of the biggest stereotypes of women involved in politics is that the majority of women running for office are democrats. Studler and Welch, of West Virginia State University and Pennsylvania State University respectively examined this in their study of women's electability in the United States. "In 1993, over 60 percent of women state legislators were democrats" (Studler and Welch 864). This stereotype has evolved about the Democratic party and women mainly because of the parties stance on women's issues

like healthcare and abortion. These beliefs about women being democratic also lead people to believe that all women have the same beliefs and values, thus the same political ideology. In an interview on April 12, 2005 of Brea Thompson ASWSU president, when asked about what assumptions she would make about a female candidate running for office, she said, "Most are democrats, The experience of being a minority, sexually harassed, or maternal instinct lends itself to a more a left-leaning group. They are often less worried about the bottom line, as many republicans are, and more interested in people." This stereotype turns many voters away from women candidates because they think that women are really firm in their beliefs and will not compromise on certain hot button issues. There are also beliefs that women have a better ability to connect with voters and their constituents. Debra Young discusses this idea in her article published in the peer reviewed journal, Women and Politics. She claims, "Men, we're told, value self-reliance and toughness, so they want a government that maintains military strength and isn't overly generous with welfare programs, while women value compassion and caring, so they favor a government that helps people" (Young 2). This stereotype doesn't really hurt women candidates but it does play on the ideas of women being nurturers and caregivers. It also adds to the stereotype and presumption that women are more liberal than men, because the traditional liberal agenda favors social welfare programs that help people. If women want to make a serious impact in politics they need to get away from all the stereotypes.

There are also many stereotypes that assume all women running for office are feminists and anti-men. This stereotype really dissuades people from supporting women in politics. They start to believe that women are trying to completely take over

government and get rid of all male leadership. There are also stereotypes that women are soft and gentle so they can't deal with the roughness of politics. This was perfectly illustrated in a study done by Clark and Thangavelu, of Bryn Mawr College department of psychology. They polled professionals in their study and they found that the general population deemed the following personality traits to be more masculine traits: aggressive, athletic, self-sufficient, competitive, and willing to take a stand. They found these personality traits to be perceived more feminine traits: gentle, eager to soothe feelings, doesn't use harsh language, and sympathetic. This makes voters skittish of female candidates because they think women will back down and not stand up for important issues. There are also ideas that women can't fully comprehend the complexity of governmental institutions and political ideas. Along with these many stereotypes there are also many double standards about men and women in politics.

A big double standard of women in politics is media bias. The media coverage of women's political campaigns has a huge slant towards fashion and appearance. The focus of many news stories about female politicians is what they wore to a fundraiser or how they style their hair. This is not the case for their male counterparts. Men running for office receive media attention because of their political ideas and policy issues. This is unfair for many women because they never really get a chance to publicize their political ideology. Many women are unfairly judged this way and not given the chance to properly represent themselves. A perfect example of this double standard in action was when Elizabeth Dole was campaigning for a presidential nomination in 2000. The White House Project followed her media coverage and determined that she received almost all of her media attention about personality and fashion while George W. Bush, John

McCain, and Steve Forbes all received media attention about policy issues and political ideology (Wilson 2). Another thing that causes a double standard for women in politics is family. The public is made to believe that a female politician should not have a family. This is also done mainly through media coverage and bias. There is always question as to whether or not a woman with a husband and/or children can fulfill their duties in government without letting their family lives interfere. This type of judgment is not usually found of a male politician. This double standard makes it hard for women to get elected, because voters think they will not be able to do a complete job when in office. Another family related double standard of women is that if they do have families they should be perfect. This is also true for men in politics, but women are scrutinized much more. One example of this today is the scandal involving George W. Bush's twin daughters. There are many reports that the teens have been in trouble for under age drinking, drunken driving, and drugs. One report included an interview with celebrity Ashton Kutcher who claimed the twins, Barbara and Jenna drank with him at a party, then went back to his place and smoked Marijuana (Thomas 1). The White House has ignored these reports and all the allegations about the twins have been seemingly swept under the rug. Bush has since proclaimed a "No Twins Policy" for media coverage, claiming that they need privacy and do not wish to live under the public eye. This is unfair for women because, the public believes that if a woman has trouble with her children or spouse, then it reflects weakly on her character. They then believe that if a woman can not control her own family, she can surely not control or manage a city, state, or country. This double standard or way of judgment stems from the gender roles and social standards of our history. It was typical for women to run the household and manage the family, thus that

stereotype is still in people's minds and they expect women to be in control of their families, children in particular. While all politicians are judged harshly and examined under a microscope it seems women are always looked at more closely or from unfair angles. Women have come a long way over the past 100 years in politics, and are continuing to increase their presence in governmental institutions.

There will always probably be stereotypes and double standards of women in our society, it surely isn't something that is going to change overnight. As women it is our constitutional duty to be actively concerned and involved citizens. It is our right to be represented in our government and it is our responsibility to make it happen. It is blatantly clear that having 22 percent women in our government is unacceptable. Just as we continue to fight racism and other forms of prejudice and mis-judgment in America, this will always be a battle facing our society. As long as women sit back and allow ourselves to be silenced and made a victim, institutions and society will not change. Men and women need to stand up for our nation's democracy and demand equal representation in their government.

*Good additions  
for revision*

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