

A BRIEF HISTORY OF WOMEN EDUCATION

FOR A LONG TIME, WOMEN HAD BEEN TREATED
AS SUBORDINATE IN SOCIETY, DEPRIVED THE
OPPORTUNITY TO EDUCATION

1787

John Poor founded Young Ladies'
Academy of Philadelphia

- Women for the first time got a chance to learn beyond the very basics.
- Setting up the precedent conducive to the creation of even higher education.

1778/1779

Thomas Jefferson authored Bill 79: "A Bill for the More General Diffusion of Knowledge."

- Excluding women and enslaved black.

1823

Catherine Beecher founded the Hartford Female Seminary

- She believed women's role as educator and moral guide is the basis for an ordered society. Under her influence, many women became teachers.
- Yet, she didn't challenge that women are subordinate by claiming that teaching and housekeeping are the only suitable jobs for females.
- Her students changed many people's stereotype that women aren't capable of sophisticated subject like Latin.

1849

Elizabeth Blackwell graduated from Geneva
Medival College

- Becoming the first woman graduating from medical school.
- She helped many other women who wanted a career in medicine by later establishing the New York Infirmary to enroll those rejected from internships for their womanhood.
- Published several books addressing the issue of women in medicine
- Women now could take on the male-dominated job.

1861

Mathew Vassar founded Vassar College

- Offered young women a liberal arts education that was for the first time equal to that of the best men's colleges.
- Set the standard for women's higher education.
- Courses taught by leading scholars.
- The college acquired the most up-to-date equipment for study and research.
- Women could eventually receive higher education of equal quality as men did.

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