Kevin White

3/5/2022

Modern Extremists

“All men & woman are created equal” by Constance Rynder gives a timeline to educate the reader on the long battle for equality fought for by woman to achieve the right to vote in The United States. Throughout the article, Rynder emphasizes the dates and events to reveal how long the fight for suffrage took, not including the rights fought for today. The author successfully achieves this image of a painfully long journey towards achievements brought by the woman’s suffrage movement.

The article begins with discussing an almost 175-year-old catalyst event for the women’s rights movement that happened in July 19, 1848. Knowing that the suffrage movement grew in popularity in the 1910’s was enough to pass the nineteenth amendment in 1919. This puts into perspective the 71-year mission many of the woman where on to achieve equal rights. This opening statement sets a tone for the rest of the article, letting the reader know that there where many obstacles in their way.

One of the most persistent obstacles in the woman suffrage movement, surprisingly, was other women. Rynder dedicates a large portion of the article to discussing the first “Women’s Rights Convention”, which aimed to discuss women’s right to equal pay, ownership of property, and the controversial idea of suffrage. The former of these received a lot of backlash, both by the media and attendees of the event. This reveals an early internal conflict between activists within the Woman’s Rights movement. When the Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions were revealed to the broader public, many who signed it where embarrassed to have done so which made the fight for women’s suffrage even more challenging. The author stresses the public criticism of these ideas calling the press venomous, almost killing the movement before it had even started.

At this point the reader is almost halfway through the article and has seen almost no forward movement toward woman’s suffrage. This lets the Rynder successfully show the increasing opposition, as well as the internal struggles within the movement. The author makes this even more apparent when she mentions the breaking up of the suffrage organization into the AWSA and the NWSA. The reader assumes the separation of the groups for almost 20 years creates stagnation in the fight for their cause. Ryder demonstrates this by creating a gap in the timeline when talking about this period of the women’s rights movement.

For the final nail in the coffin, Ryder mentions the fact that only One of the woman who attended the first “Women’s Rights Conventions” was able to vote in the first election after the nineteenth amendment was past. This closing statement ties a bow on the over 70-year journey of the woman’s rights movement towards suffrage. Showing the determination some woman had towards the suffrage movement, and the woman’s rights movement so far.

The woman’s rights movement is still very prevalent in society and my life today, and still faces many issues that the author had talked about during their journey for suffrage. This is still seen, as in my lifetime, woman have fought for equal pay, and more prevalence in managerial positions in the workforce. The most prevalent issue today would be anti-abortion laws being passed throughout American society. Many Women’s Rights activists rally against these bills as they believe abortion is a right. These issues have woman of both sides getting in each other’s way to fight for what they believe in. Being raised in a highly political climate, modern woman’s rights are brought up constantly in conversations today.