

history theatre



Play Guide

September 28-October 20, 2019

by Emily Mann

directed by Risa Brainin

2019 and the recent past. This new work by Tony Award-winning playwright Emily Mann celebrates the life of one of the most important figures of America's feminist movement! Nearly half a century later, Ms. Steinem's fight for gender equality is still a battle yet to be won.

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30 East Tenth Street Saint Paul, MN 55101
651-292-4323 Box Office
651-292-4320 Group Sales historytheatre.com

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Emily Mann



Emily Mann (*Playwright, Artistic Director/Resident Playwright*) is in her 30th and final season as Artistic Director and Resident Playwright at the McCarter Theatre Center in Princeton, New Jersey. Her nearly 50 McCarter directing credits include acclaimed productions by Shakespeare, Chekhov, Ibsen, and Williams and the world premieres of Christopher Durang's *Turning Off the Morning News* and *Miss Witherspoon*; Ken Ludwig's *Murder on the Orient Express*; Rachel Bonds' *Five Mile Lake*; Danai Gurira's *The Convert*; Sarah Treem's *The How and the Why*; and Edward Albee's *Me, Myself & I*. Broadway: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Anna in the Tropics*, *Execution of Justice*, *Having Our Say*. Her plays: *Having Our Say*, adapted from the book by Sarah L. Delany and A. Elizabeth Delany with Amy Hill Hearth; *Execution of Justice*; *Still Life*; *Annula, An Autobiography*; *Greensboro (A Requiem)*; *Meshugah*; *Mrs. Packard*, and *Hoodwinked (a Primer on Radical Islamism)*. Adaptations: *Baby Doll*, *Scenes from a Marriage*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *A Seagull in the Hamptons*, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Antigone*. Currently in development: *The Pianist*. Her new play *Gloria: A Life* about the legacy of Gloria Steinem will open McCarter's season this year after a successful run in New York at The Daryl Roth Theater. Awards include: Peabody, Hull Warriner, NAACP, Obies, Guggenheim; Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle nominations; a Princeton University Honorary Doctorate of Arts, a Helen Merrill Distinguished Playwrights' Award, the Margo Jones Award given to a "citizen-of-the-theater who has demonstrated a lifetime commitment to the encouragement of the living theater everywhere". During her 30 year tenure, Mann has committed to supporting the work of playwrights past, present, and future including: Ayad Akhtar, Edward Albee, David Auburn, Eleanor Burgess, Marina Carr, Nilo Cruz, Nathan Allan Davis, Lydia Diamond, Selina Fillinger, Athol Fugard, John Guare, Beth Henley, Naomi Iizuka, Arthur Kopit, Tarell Alvin McCraney, Lynn Nottage, Dael Orlandersmith, Will Power, Heather Raffo, Theresa Rebeck, Sarah Ruhl, Ntozake Shange, Regina Taylor, August Wilson, Doug Wright, and Mary Zimmerman. This year, she was awarded the TCG Visionary Leadership Award.

Biography from The McCarter Theatre Center website. Last updated May 2019.

mccarter.org

GLORIA STEINEM



March 25, 1934— Born in Toledo, Ohio

1948 – Enters high school

1954 – Sails to Paris to study

1956 – Engaged to Blair Chotzinoff, but breaks it off

1956 – Graduates Phi Beta Kappa from Smith College

1956-1958 - Lives in India on a Chester Bowles Fellowship

1960 – Begins to work at “Help!” Magazine in New York City

1961 – Father dies

1963 – Works as a bunny at the Playboy Club in order to expose the poor pay and working conditions the women face

1968 - Begins writing the column, "The City Politic," for *New York* magazine

1969 – After meeting with other women on the topic of abortion, Steinem begins to speak and write about feminism

1970 - Testifies before the United States Senate on behalf of the Equal Rights Amendment (first introduced by Alice Paul during the 1st feminist movement)

1971 - Co-founds *Ms. Magazine* – 1st magazine to be created and operated entirely by women

1971 - Co-founds the National Women’s Political Caucus (increases the number of women in political field)

1972 – Mother dies



1971 - Co-founds the National Women's Political Caucus, which works to increase the number of women in politics

1973 - Co-founds the Ms. Foundation for Women

November 18-21, 1977 - Organizes the National Women's conference in Houston. The conference is the first to be backed by the US government, and its purpose was not lawmaking but proposing recommendations for widespread gender equality

1983 - Steinem's collection of essays "Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions" is published



1992 - Steinem's book "Revolution from Within: A Book of Self-Esteem" is published

April 22, 1993 - Celebrates the first "Take Our Daughters To Work Day," an educational program created by the Ms. Foundation to give girls a voice and presence in the workplace

1993 - Inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame

January 12, 1993 - Co-produces the movie for television "Better off Dead" an examination of the parallels between abortion and the death penalty

1996 - Creates the Women and AIDS Fund with the Ms. Foundation to support women living with HIV/AIDS

2005 - Co-founds the Women's Media Center with Jane Fonda and Robin Morgan

2006 - Steinem's book "Doing Sixty & Seventy" is published

August 15, 2011 - The HBO documentary "Gloria: In Her Own Words" airs

2013 - Steinem is a subject in the PBS documentary "Makers," a project that aims to record the stories of women who "made America"

November 20, 2013 - Awarded a Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama

October 27, 2015 - Her memoir "My Life on the Road" is published

February 5, 2016 - Steinem makes a controversial comment on "Real Time with Bill Maher," saying young women are supporting Senator Bernie Sanders in the presidential race because "the boys are with Bernie"

May 10, 2016 - Steinem's television show "WOMAN" premieres on VICELAND

October 18, 2018 - Gloria—A Life! opens at the Daryl Roth Theatre



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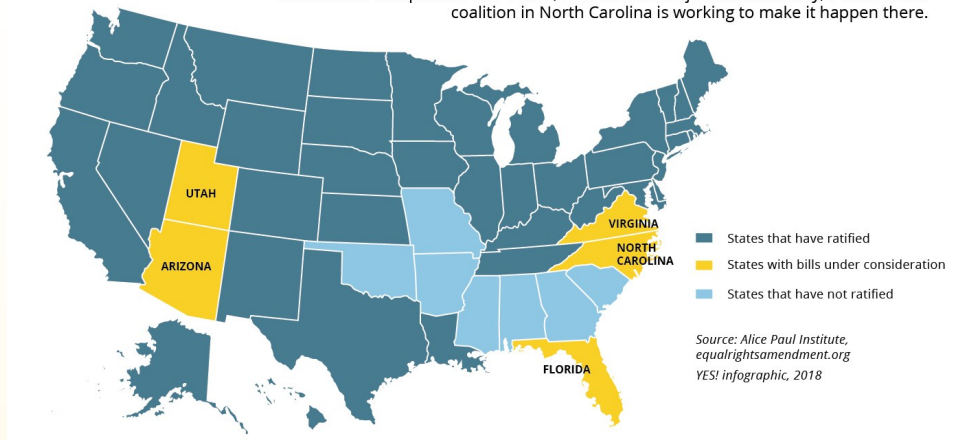
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ERA NOW? JUST ONE MORE STATE

Only three states were needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment when the deadline for it expired in 1982. Now, with ratification just one state shy, a women-led coalition in North Carolina is working to make it happen there.



In some ways, the feminist movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries culminated with the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution that finally gave American women the right to vote. Many feminists in the 1960s and 1970s felt that adding the Equal Rights Amendment would be the next step in the movement for women’s equality. On March 22, 2017, Nevada became the 36th state and the first state in 40 years to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment with Illinois being the last to do so on May 30, 2018.

First introduced by Alice Paul in 1923, the ERA aimed to overturn the many forms of sex discrimination that persisted after women attained the vote in 1920. The original text of the ERA, written by Paul, read simply: “Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.”

The goal of the ERA was to erase sex as a basis of legal classification, but the vast majority of activist women rejected this line of thinking. Opponents argued that women *were* different from men and, as such, needed legal protection, not legal equality.

Women’s groups, labor unions, and others representing female factory workers had long pushed for protective legislation to spare women from the worst industrial ills of the era, such as unregulated hours on the job and dangerous working conditions. Opponents feared that the ERA would harm working-class women by invalidating gender-based workplace safety laws. Paul and her allies argued that the ERA would require safety laws that protected both men and women.

These debates divided the women’s movement. By the end of the decade, not a single state had passed an equal rights provision and, along with many other reform movements, the women’s movement lost momentum and supporters.

Throughout the Great Depression and World War II, women entered the workforce in record numbers. Business and professional women’s groups continued to endorse the ERA, but women in labor and politics remained opposed.

In 1940, the Republican Party endorsed the ERA in its platform, and the Democratic Party followed suit in 1944. In 1943, Alice Paul rewrote the text of the Equal Rights Amendment and, notably, removed the word “women.” The revised (and current) text reads: “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.”

Despite vocal opposition from women's groups, including the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, and the Young Women's Christian Association, the ERA first came to the Senate floor in 1946. In a vote of 38 to 35, it achieved a simple majority but fell short of the necessary two-thirds required. Cheering the ERA's first Senate defeat, the *New York Times* proclaimed, "Motherhood cannot be amended."



In 1960, after newly elected President John F. Kennedy failed to appoint any woman as a cabinet secretary, longtime female activists in the Democratic Party demanded inclusion. Specifically, they proposed the creation of a Commission on the Status of Women to be led by Eleanor Roosevelt. Esther Peterson, head of the Labor Department Women's Bureau, supported both equal pay and protective legislation. On October 11, 1963, the 24-member commission submitted its proposals to "enable women to continue their roles as wives and mothers while making a maximum contribution to the world around them." In particular, the

report recommended the removal of legal barriers to jury service, divorce and custody law reform, and federal support for daycare. The report rejected the ERA on the grounds that women's equality was already guaranteed by the 5th and 14th Amendments.

The press and public paid little attention to the commission or its findings, but by the end of 1963, Congress passed the first Equal Pay Act and provided federal funds for daycare. By 1964, 32 states had formed their own commissions on women. Even though the Kennedy commission denied the need for the ERA, by the mid-1960s many labor groups and wage-earning women were coming to support it.

In 1966, a new civil rights organization for women was founded to address the inequities highlighted by the uneven enforcement of the 1964 Civil Rights Act: the National Organization for Women (NOW). NOW revived the ERA in 1967, and the amendment appealed to a new generation of women in ways Alice Paul and earlier activists could not have imagined. The women of Paul's generation believed that a woman should be able to choose a career or a family, a radical notion at the time. A priority of "second wave" feminism was to dismantle the old idea that women's roles were inherently maternal and to suggest that a woman could have both a career and a family.

With workplace protections secured by legal precedent and strong labor unions, working-class white women now divided their support on equal rights. In many cases, it was union women who led the charge for equal pay and against workplace discrimination. They filed Title VII discrimination lawsuits and encouraged their unions to support the ERA.

The growing prominence of feminism in the early 1970s also helped to elect a handful of women to Congress and to convince both major political parties of the need for federal laws to ensure the equality of women. Representative Martha Griffiths, a former lawyer and judge from Missouri who had served in Congress since 1954, steered the ERA through Congress.



Representative Griffiths

The ERA passed the House in 1970 and 1971 but stalled in the Senate as a result of attempts to add an amendment recusing women from the draft. Finally, on March 22, 1972, the Senate passed the ERA by a vote of 84-8. President Richard Nixon signaled his support and, by the end of 1973, 30 of the necessary 38 states had ratified.

In the early 1970s, equality for women appeared inevitable and public opinion polls repeatedly showed strong majority support for the ERA. In 1973, however, the tide began to turn against the ERA. Historians have identified multiple factors to explain this shift—from well-organized Mormon opposition to the high-profile resistance from corporations such as Coors Brewing. Feminist icon Gloria Steinem blamed the insurance lobby. Removing sex-based actuarial tables might have cost insurance companies millions of dollars. Requiring health insurers to fully cover women’s reproductive healthcare could cost untold more.

All of these factors no doubt played a role in the failure of the ERA, but most people, historians and activists alike, agree that credit or blame, depending on whom you ask, belongs to Phyllis Schlafly and her STOP ERA campaign. Subsequent opposition to the ERA successfully elaborated the false logic that feminism forces a choice between women’s rights and family values.

In 1980, the Republican Party, reshaped by Schlafly and the “family values” movement, dropped support for the ERA from its platform. In 1982, the 10-year time limit for ratification of the ERA expired.

Since then, the U.S. has also steadfastly refused to join 187 other countries in ratifying the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Others who refuse are Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, and Iran.

In the absence of a federal ERA, 22 states have passed their own version of an Equal Rights Amendment. Several separate federal proposals promoting the principles of the ERA have become law—including the Lilly Ledbetter Pay Act of 2009, the first bill signed into law by President Obama.



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SECOND WAVE FEMINISM

Feminism has been described as having three separate waves. The First Wave Feminist Movement started in the mid-19th Century and culminated with the women's suffrage movement. Second wave feminism started in the late 1950s when women were forced out of the workplace after the end of and moved into the 1980s with the failure to ratify the ERA. Second-wave feminism splintered after criticism grew that the movement had focused on white women to the exclusion of everyone else. The third wave feminism essentially started with the Anita Hill hearings before the Senate Judiciary Hearings for Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas.

The women's movement before the 1920s was characterized by the suffrage movement that led to women gaining the right to vote. In the 1940's, women gained increasing employment as men went to fight in WWII. Women's participation in the labor force created a feeling after the war ended that they deserved the same types of rights as men in the work place. In 1949, Simone de Beauvoir published *The Second Sex*, a groundbreaking book that questioned how society viewed women and the role in which they played. The book questioned why women's roles that saw them as secondary to men in the workplace and home be perpetuated when this was not the case during the war. In the early 1960s, Betty Frieden noticed that many of her classmates were unhappy in marriages that revolved around childcare and housework. This realization prompted her to write *The Feminine Mystique* in 1963 where she questioned white, middle-class ideals of family life and motherhood. She focused mainly on homelife because she believed it stifled women and their aspirations.

The first great success was the passage of the Equal Pay Act of 1963 which requires employers to pay men and women equally for doing the same work --equal pay for equal work. Other changes, including the introduction of the contraceptive pill gave women greater choices about rearing children.

In the 1970s, second-wave feminism diverged into two separate movements. Equal rights feminism was looking for equality with men in political and social spheres, where laws such as legalization of abortion and the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. The ERA, first proposed in 1923, was passed in 1972 but failed to receive the 38 state ratifications necessary to become part of the Constitution. It has yet to be adopted. The equal rights feminists were largely white, older in age, and most came from affluent backgrounds.

Radical feminism, on the other hand, wanted much more societal changes to make it less patriarchal. They were made up of younger white and minority women of all ages who were active in the Civil Rights movement as well. There were tensions within broader feminists movements because a large percentage of the leaders were white and the agenda had some stark racial contrasts. They felt a failing in the movement's representation and incorporating racial and other issues. Such views proved to be influential in the third wave of feminism that emerged in the late 1970s.

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SECOND WAVE FEMINISM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1961

- The report of the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women found discrimination against women in every aspect of American life and outlined plans to achieve equality

1962

- *Sex and the Single Girl* sells two million copies in three weeks. Author Helen Gurley Brown encouraged women to become financially independent, and to become sexually active before marriage

1963

- Equal Pay Act became law and established equality of pay for men and women performing equal work.
- Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique* was published, became a best-seller, and laid the groundwork for the second-wave feminist movement in the U.S.
- Gloria Steinem went undercover as a Playboy bunny in a New York Playboy Club, and published the exposé "A Bunny's Tale" in Show magazine in two installments in May and June, 1963

1964

- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 became law in the U.S., and it barred employment discrimination on account of sex, race, etc. by private employers, employment agencies, and unions
- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission was established; in its first five years, 50,000 complaints of gender discrimination were received (EEOC)

1965

- Casey Hayden and Mary King published "Sex and Caste: A Kind of Memo", detailing women's inequality within the civil rights organization SNCC
- The U.S. Supreme Court case *Griswold v. Connecticut* struck down the only remaining state law banning the use of contraceptives by married couples
- *Weeks v. Southern Bell* is a triumph towards restrictive labor laws and company regulations on the hours and conditions of women's work in the U.S., opening many previously male-only jobs to women

1966

- Twenty-eight women, among them Betty Friedan, founded the National Organization for Women (NOW) to function as a civil rights organization for women
- Barbara Jordan was elected to the Texas Senate as the 1st African-American woman in the legislature
- Flight attendants filed Title VII complaints about being forced to quit when they married, got pregnant or reached age 35

1967

- Executive Order 11375 expands coverage of discrimination based on sex, ensuring that all women as well as minorities have access to educational and employment opportunities equal to white males
- The pill makes the cover of *TIME* magazine
- NOW began petitioning the EEOC to end sex-segregated want ads and adopted a Bill of Rights for Women
- Senator Eugene McCarthy introduced the Equal Rights Amendment in the U.S. Senate

1968

- Robin Morgan led members of New York Radical Women to protest the Miss America Pageant of 1968, which they decried as sexist and racist
- The EEOC issued revised guidelines on sex discrimination, making it clear that the widespread practice of publishing "help wanted" advertisements that use "male" and "female" column headings violates Title VII
- Journalist Martha Lear coins the terms 'first-wave' and 'second-wave' feminism in a New York Times Magazine article entitled "The Second Feminist Wave: What do these women want?"

1969

- NARAL Pro-Choice America, then called The National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws was founded
- California adopted a "no fault" divorce law, allowing couples to divorce by mutual consent. It was the first state to do so; by 2010 every state had adopted a similar law

1970

- American feminist Kate Millett published her book, *Sexual Politics*
- Australian feminist Germaine Greer published her book, *The Female Eunuch*
- In *Schultz v. Wheaton Glass Co.*, a U.S. Court of Appeals ruled jobs held by men and women must be "substantially equal" but not "identical" to fall under the protection of the Equal Pay Act
- The North American Indian Women's Association was founded
- On August 26, 1970, the 50th anniversary of woman suffrage in the U.S., tens of thousands of women across the nation participated in the Women's Strike for Equality
- Feminist leader Bella Abzug was elected to the U.S. Congress, famously declaring "A woman's place is in the House"
- President Richard Nixon vetoed the Comprehensive Child Development Act, which would have established federally funded child care centers throughout the U.S.
- The Lutheran Church in America and the American Lutheran Church allowed women to be ordained
- The U.S. Congress enacted Title X of the Public Health Service Act, the only American federal program—then and now—devoted solely to the provision of family planning services nationwide

1971

- Jane O'Reilly's article "The Housewife's Moment of Truth" was published in the first edition of *Ms.* which appeared as an insert to *New York Magazine*
- In the U.S. Supreme Court Case *Reed v Reed*, for the first time since the Fourteenth Amendment went into effect in 1868, the Court struck down a state law on the ground that it discriminated against women in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of that amendment
- The song "I Am Woman" was published. It was a popular song performed by Australian singer Helen Reddy, which became an enduring anthem for the women's liberation movement

1972

- American feminists Gloria Steinem and Letty Cottin Pogrebin co-founded *Ms*
- The Equal Rights Amendment was sent to the U.S. states for ratification.
- In *Eisenstadt v. Baird* the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that unmarried couples have a right to use contraception.
- Title IX of the Education Amendments became law. It is a comprehensive federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded education program or activity
- Gloria Steinem delivered her *Address to the Women of America*

1973

- American tennis player Billie Jean King defeated Bobby Riggs in the "Battle of the Sexes" tennis match.
- The Supreme Court ruled in *Roe v. Wade* that laws prohibiting abortion are unconstitutional
- The term "sexual harassment" was used in 1973 in "Saturn's Rings", a report authored by Mary Rowe to the then President and Chancellor of MIT about various forms of gender issues
- The Equal Credit Opportunity Act became law. It prohibits discrimination in consumer credit practices on the basis of sex, race, marital status, religion, national origin, age, or receipt of public assistance

1974

- In *Corning Glass Works v. Brennan*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that employers cannot justify paying women lower wages because that is what they traditionally received under the going market rate
- The U.S. First Lady Betty Ford was pro-choice. A moderate Republican, Ford lobbied to ratify the ERA, earning the ire of conservatives, who dub her "No Lady"
- The Mexican-American Women's National Association was founded
- The American Coalition of Labor Union Women was founded
- The Women's Educational Equity Act (WEEA) of 1974 was enacted to promote educational equity for American girls and women, including those who suffer multiple discrimination based on gender and on race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, or age

1975

- The U.N. sponsored the First International Conference on Women in Mexico City
- U.S. federal employees' salaries could be garnished for child support and alimony
- American feminist Susan Brownmiller published the landmark book *Against Our Will*, about rape
- The Equal Opportunities Commission came into effect in the UK (besides Northern Ireland, where it came into effect in 1976) to oversee the Sex Discrimination and Equal Pay Act
- The first "Take Back the Night" march was held. It was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in October 1975, after the murder of a microbiologist, Susan Alexander Speeth, who was stabbed to death while walking home alone

1976

- The Organization of Pan Asian American Women was formed
- In Wisconsin, Susan B. Anthony Day is an established state holiday, which was enacted into law

1977

- In the U.S., the first National Women's Conference in a century was held in Houston, Texas

1978

- The Pregnancy Discrimination Act banned employment discrimination against pregnant women in the U.S., stating a woman cannot be fired or denied a job or a promotion because she is or may become pregnant, nor can she be forced to take a pregnancy leave if she is willing and able to work
- The Equal Rights Amendment's deadline arrived with the ERA still three states short of ratification; there was a successful bill to extend the ERA's deadline to 1982, but it was still not ratified

In the U.S., the early 1980s were marked by the end of the second wave and the beginning of the feminist sex wars. Many historians view the second-wave feminist era in America as ending in the early 1980s with the intra-feminism disputes of the feminist sex wars over issues such as sexuality and pornography, which ushered in the era of third-wave feminism in the early 1990s.

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NATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



The National Women's Conference took place on November 18-21, 1977, in Houston. It was the first meeting of its type in the United States since the Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848. It provided an opportunity to evaluate and make recommendations on the role of women in this country through a discussion of specific issues and ideas.

Approximately 2,000 delegates from fifty states and six territories participated in the meeting, which was attended by an additional 15,000 to 20,000 observers. The conference was authorized by public law and supported with federal funds. It was required to include varied economic, racial, ethnic, religious, and age groups. The conference was organized after a 1975 United Nations conference in Mexico City celebrating the "International Year of the Woman," which was later extended to an "International Decade for Women." In this country President Gerald R. Ford had established early in 1975 a thirty-five-member National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year to make recommendations to promote equality between men and women. Congressional action came at the same time with Public Law 94-167, which was introduced by United States congresswomen Bella S. Abzug and Patsy Mink and called for the commission to organize and convene a national women's conference in 1977, supported by \$5 million in federal funds.

Although the National Women's Conference was not a lawmaking body and could only propose nonbinding recommendations, it was directed to arrive at a national plan of action to help remove sex barriers and better utilize women's contributions. This plan, which grew from issues discussed at the state conferences, was to be submitted to the president and Congress within 120 days of the conference. Twenty-six major topics were considered by the delegates, including the ERA, abortion, lesbian rights, child care, minority women, homemakers, battered women, education, rape, health, and a cabinet-level women's department.

Even with these points of contention, however, the conference ultimately arrived at broad common ground and approved a plan of action urging federal involvement in all but one area it considered. The only proposal not receiving the convention's endorsement pertained to the establishment of a women's department. Despite the general agreement on the other resolutions, the conference closed on a controversial note as nonfeminist delegates walked out of the meeting, claiming that they had not been given a fair opportunity to express their views.

The National Plan of Action was submitted to the president and Congress in March 1978, and a month later Carter established the National Advisory Committee for Women. The Senate granted a three-year extension for ratification of the ERA within a year of the Houston meeting; this unprecedented move was viewed as a major post conference achievement, despite the final failure of the amendment in 1982.

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Phyllis Schlafly



Phyllis Stewart was born on August 15, 1924 in St Louis. During the Great Depression, Phyllis's father faced long-term unemployment, and her mother entered the labor market. Mrs. Stewart was able to keep the family afloat.

Before her marriage, she worked as a teacher at a private girls' school in St. Louis. In 1946, Schlafly became a researcher for the American Enterprise Institute and worked in the successful U. S. House of Representatives campaign of Republican Claude

I. Bakewell. On October 20, 1949, when she was twenty-five years old, she married attorney John Fred Schlafly Jr. She played a major role with her husband in 1957 in writing a highly influential report, the American Bar Association's Report on Communist Tactics, Strategy, and Objectives. It became not only one of the most widely read documents ever produced by the ABA, it was probably the single most widely read publication of the grassroots anticommunist movement.

In 1952, Schlafly ran for Congress as a Republican in the majority Democratic 24th congressional district of Illinois and lost to Charles Melvin Price. She came to national attention her self-published book, *A Choice Not an Echo* sold millions of copies. In it, Schlafly denounced the Rockefeller Republicans in the Northeast, accusing them of corruption and globalism. Critics called the book a conspiracy theory about "secret kingmakers" controlling the Republican Party.

Schlafly became an outspoken opponent of the Equal Rights Amendment during the 1970s as the organizer of the "STOP ERA" campaign. STOP was an acronym for "Stop Taking Our Privileges". She argued that the ERA would take away gender-specific privileges currently enjoyed by women, including "dependent wife" benefits under Social Security, separate restrooms for males and females, and exemption from Selective Service. Schlafly said the ERA was designed for the benefit of young career women, and warned that if men and women had to be treated equally, that social condition would threaten the security of middle-aged housewives without job skills, would repeal legal protections, such as alimony, and eliminate the judicial tendency for divorced mothers to receive custody of their children. Many people who followed the struggle over the ERA believed that the Amendment would have been ratified by 1975 or 1976 had it not been for Phyllis Schlafly's early and effective effort to organize potential opponents.

In 1972, Schlafly founded the Eagle Forum, a conservative political interest group, and remained its chairwoman and CEO. Eagle Forum is the parent organization that also includes the Eagle Forum Education and Legal Defense Fund and the Eagle Forum PAC. The Eagle Forum's mission is "to enable conservative and pro-family men and women to participate in the process of self-government and public policy making so that America will continue to be a land of individual liberty, respect for family integrity, public and private virtue, and private enterprise."

Phyllis remained the CEO of the Eagle Forum until her death from cancer on September 5, 2016.

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MILESTONES IN U.S. WOMEN'S HISTORY



From a plea to a founding father, to the suffragettes to Title IX, to the first female political figures, women have blazed a steady trail towards equality in the United States.

March 31, 1776: In a letter to her husband, Abigail Adams pleads “remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands. Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation.”

July 19-20, 1848: In the first women’s rights convention organized by women, the Seneca Falls Convention is held in New York, with 300 attendees, including organizer Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott.

May 29, 1851: A former slave turned abolitionist and women’s rights activist, Sojourner Truth delivers her famous "Ain't I a Woman?" speech at the Women’s Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio.

May 15, 1869: Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton found the National Woman Suffrage Association, which coordinated the national suffrage movement

Dec. 10, 1869: The legislature of the territory of Wyoming passes America’s first woman suffrage law, granting women the right to vote and hold office.

April 2, 1917: Jeannette Rankin of Montana, a longtime activist with the National Woman Suffrage Association, is sworn in as the first woman elected to Congress as a member of the House of Representatives.

Aug. 18, 1920: Ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is completed, declaring “the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.”

May 20-21, 1932: Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman, and second pilot ever to fly solo nonstop across the Atlantic.

Dec. 1, 1955: Black activist Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat to a white man on a bus in Montgomery, Ala. The move helps launch the civil rights movement.

June 10, 1963: President John F. Kennedy signs into law the Equal Pay Act, prohibiting sex-based wage discrimination between men and women performing the same job in the same workplace.

July 2, 1964: President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act into law; Title VII bans employment discrimination based on race, religion, national origin or sex.

June 30, 1966: Betty Friedan, author of 1963's *The Feminine Mystique*, helps fund the National Organization for Women, using grassroots activism to promote feminist ideals, lead societal change, eliminate discrimination, and achieve and protect the equal rights of all women and girls in all aspects of social, political, and economic life.

June 23, 1972: Title IX of the Education Amendments is signed into law by President Richard Nixon.

Jan. 22, 1973: In its landmark 7-2 *Roe v. Wade* decision, the U.S. Supreme Court declares that the Constitution protects a woman's legal right to an abortion.

Sept. 20, 1973: In "The Battle of the Sexes," tennis great Billie Jean King beats Bobby Riggs in straight sets during an exhibition match aired on primetime TV and drawing 90 million viewers.

July 7, 1981: Sandra Day O'Connor is sworn in by President Ronald Reagan as the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. She retires in 2006, after serving for 24 years.

June 18, 1983: Flying on the Space Shuttle Challenger, Sally Ride becomes the first American woman in space.

July 12, 1984: Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale names U.S. Rep. Geraldine Ferraro as his running mate, making her the first woman vice president nominee by a major party.

March 12, 1993: Nominated by President Bill Clinton, Janet Reno is sworn in as the first female attorney general of the United States.

Sept. 13, 1994: Clinton signs the Violence Against Women Act as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, providing funding for programs that help victims of domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, stalking and other gender-related violence.

Jan. 23, 1997: Madeleine Albright is sworn in as the nation's first female secretary of state.

Jan. 4, 2007: U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) becomes the first female speaker of the House. In 2019, she reclaims the title, becoming the first lawmaker to hold the office two times in more than 50 years.

Jan. 24, 2013: The U.S. military removes a ban against women serving in combat positions.

July 26, 2016: Hillary Clinton becomes the first woman to receive a presidential nomination from a major political party. During her speech at the Democratic National Convention, she says, "Standing here as my mother's daughter, and my daughter's mother, I'm so happy this day has come."

Works Cited

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nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/resources/womens-rights-movement/detailed-timeline/
postandcourier.com/features/the-women-s-rights-movement-a-timeline-of-significant-events/article_53447b1d803caf5c.html

Discussion Questions

- 1. Have students go to the National Public Radio's website (<http://www.npr.org/>) and conduct a search using the word "feminism."** What feminist issues are being discussed today? What are the controversies and concerns that people are talking about? Is it similar in any way to what Steinem was saying in 1970?
- 2. Steinem complains that students do not learn enough about women's history.** Have students reflect on their own experiences in history classes. Did they learn much about women's contributions compared to the contributions of men? Have them provide three examples from their own experiences.
- 3. Have students visit Project Vote Smart: <http://www.vote-smart.org/index.htm>** On this site, students can enter their nine digit zip code to locate local and state representatives. Have students review their positions on social justice issues by using the "Issue Positions" link beneath the picture. Which candidate's position most resembles the student's position?
- 4. Steinem says that the "first problem for all of us, men and women, is not to learn but to unlearn."** What does she mean by that? Have students self-reflect on their own possible preconceptions that might be worth unlearning. How might a change in these preconceptions alter society and institutions (schools, homes, workplaces, etc.) in our country?
- 5. Have students consider the phrase "Internalized Aggression."** What do they think it means? Ask students to research the term "internalized aggression" online. What types of results do they find?
- 6. Students will want to understand Gloria Steinem's personal history in order to grasp her point of view.** What were her childhood and education like? How did she become involved in social movements?

***The Beach Book* (1963) New York: Viking Press.**

Gloria Steinem's 1963 book celebrating beach culture dedicated "To Ocean Beach Pier that was and to Paradise Island". Introduction by John Kenneth Galbraith (yes, the economist and diplomat). Fascinating peak into early '60s attitudes to leisure. Steinem's 1963 book celebrating beach culture dedicated "To Ocean Beach Pier that was and to Paradise Island". Introduction by John Kenneth Galbraith (yes, the economist and diplomat). Fascinating peak into early '60s attitudes to leisure.

***Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions* (1983) New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.
New Forward (2016)**

This collection of writings includes pieces on topics ranging from love to money and from food to erotica, essays on personal experience as political revelation, and profiles of and interviews with celebrities including Marilyn Monroe and Pat Nixon.

***Marilyn: Norma Jean* (1986),with George Barris, New York: Holt.**

This national bestselling biography is the insightful and uniquely sensitive account of the iconic 1950s sex symbol from the feminist author and activist.

***Revolution from Within: A Book of Self Esteem*(1992),Boston: Little, Brown.**

The well-know women's rights activist and feminist connects the external revolution to an internal revolution of spirit and consciousness, offering readers parables from the lives of figures as diverse as Mahatma Gandhi and Julie Andrews

***Moving beyond Words* (1993), New York: Simon & Schuster.**

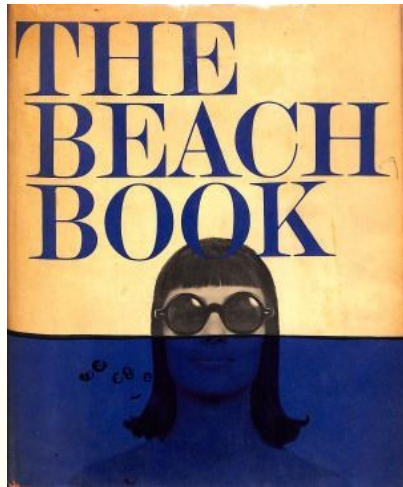
From one of the most influential women in the country and bestselling author of *Revolution from Within* comes a collection of provocative, entertaining, mind-changing essays. The six pieces, three of which have never been published before, explode common assumptions and propose radical new ways of looking at human possibilities.

***Doing Sixty & Seventy* (2006), San Francisco: Elders Academy Press.**

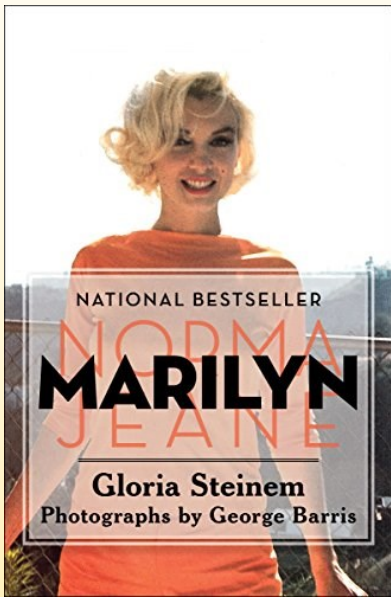
Gloria addresses an essential concern of people everywhere—and especially of women: the issue of aging. Whereas turning fifty, in her experience, is “leaving a much-loved and familiar country,” turning sixty means “arriving at the border of a new one.” With insight, intelligence, wit, and heartfelt honesty, she explores the landscapes of this new country and celebrates what she has called “the greatest adventure of our lives.”

***My Life on the Road* (2015),New York: Random House.**

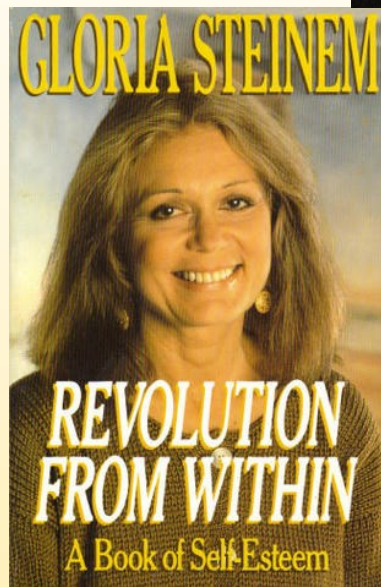
Gloria Steinem—writer, activist, organizer, and inspiring leader—now tells a story she has never told before, a candid account of her life as a traveler, a listener, and a catalyst for change



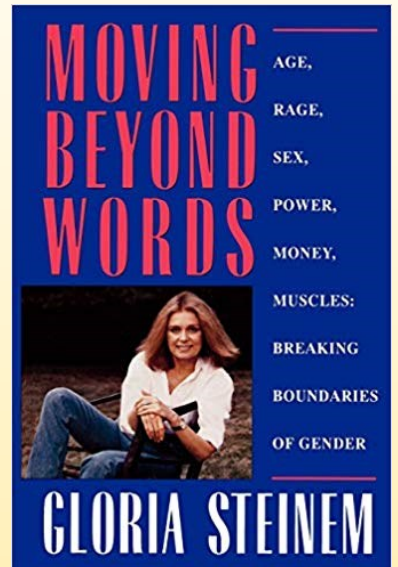
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
**Outrageous Acts and
Everyday Rebellions**
GLORIA STEINEM



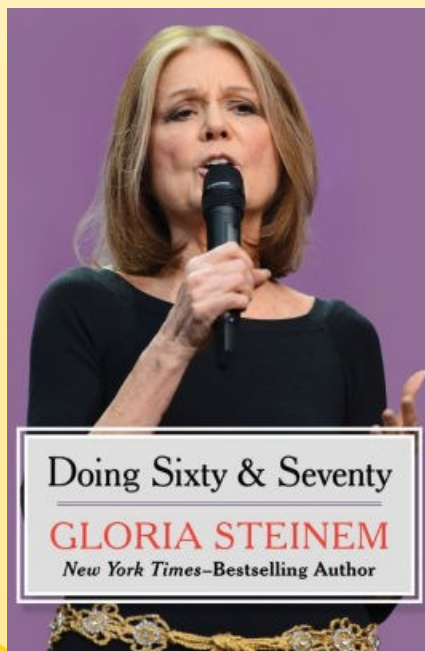
NATIONAL BESTSELLER
MARILYN
Gloria Steinem
Photographs by George Barris



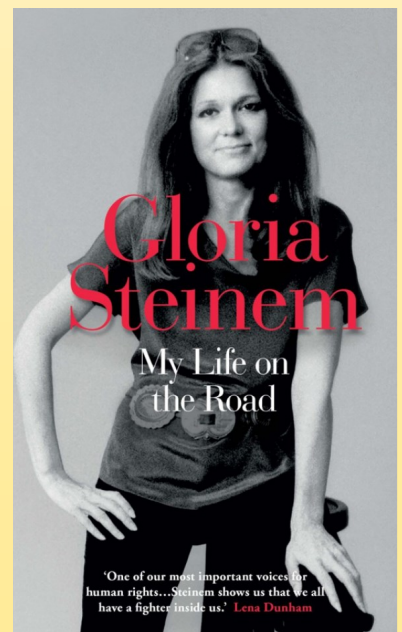
GLORIA STEINEM
**REVOLUTION
FROM WITHIN**
A Book of Self-Esteem



**MOVING
BEYOND
WORDS**
AGE,
RAGE,
SEX,
POWER,
MONEY,
MUSCLES:
BREAKING
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Doing Sixty & Seventy
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New York Times-Bestselling Author



**Gloria
Steinem**
My Life on
the Road

'One of our most important voices for
human rights...Steinem shows us that we all
have a fighter inside us.' *Lena Dunham*

Helpful Hints for Theater Audiences

As an audience member at the theater, you are part of the show! Just as you see and hear the actors onstage, they can see and hear you in the audience. To help the performers do their best, please remember the following:

- Arrive at least 15 minutes early.
- Visit the restroom before the show starts.
- Sit in the exact seat on your ticket. Ask the usher for help finding it.
- Before the show begins, turn off your phone and any other electronic devices. If anything rings by accident, turn it off immediately.
- Do not use your phone for texts, calls or games.
- You cannot make recordings in the theater.
- Do not talk, whisper, sing or hum, unless invited by the performers to do so.
- Avoid getting up during the show. If you must leave, wait for a scene change and exit quietly and quickly.

