

SPEECH TREK CONTEST TOPIC FOR 2019-2020:

ARE MEN AND WOMEN TRULY EQUAL TODAY, OR ARE THE SUFFRAGISTS OF 1920 STILL SUFFERING IN 2020?

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness..." The Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions, Seneca Falls Conference, 1848.

These words, written 171 years ago, proclaimed equality between men and women.

Abigail Adams urged her husband to "remember the ladies" when drafting our country's founding documents: *"I desire you would 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."*

Has society "remembered the ladies"?

1906 article: "A suffragette is a woman who ought to have more sense."

2017 articles:

- "Female patients: it's not all in your head"
- "Boys will be boys"
- "'Women's garage' challenges Iraq society"
- "Sexism and Silicon Valley"
- "Out too late? Indian women jeer at the idea"
- "Overshadowed, two women made difference"
- "In tech, sexism is in the water"
- "Nigeria's other abducted—and forgotten—girls"

Women have been marching toward equality for over a century, starting with the Women's March of 1913 and continuing to the Women's Marches at present.

Are men and women truly equal today? Or are the Suffragists of 1920 still suffering in 2020?

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