History of Women’s Reform Movements

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My Research

- Women in Public Administration
- Women in the Military
- Women and Peace

Women’s Social and Political Movements
Jane Addams  1860-1935

•   Founder Settlement Movement (US)
•   Leader Suffrage Movement
•   Founder of Women’s Peace Movement
•   Founder of Social Work
•   Intellectual Leader Social Reform Movement
•   Active in Temperance Movement
•   Active in Criminal Justice Reform
Key Women’s Social Movements 1800 – 1920’s

- Ladies Aid Societies (provided underlying network).
- Abolitionist Movement (1800 – 1865)
- Suffrage Movement (1848 – 1920)
- Women’s Christian Temperance Movement (1874-1960)
- Settlement Movement (1880 – 1920...1970s)
- Federated Clubs (1892 – 1911) All states
- Women’s Peace Movement (1890s -1918)
Gender relations and identities were not just a footnote.... They were centrally intertwined with the structural and cultural patterns of American Politics from The 19th to the early 20th century.

Theda Skocpol
Protecting Soldiers and Mothers:
The Political Origins of Social Policy in the US. 1992
Stories of Three Women

Florence Nightingale

Jane Addams

Mary Livermore
Her mission - use science to reduce suffering and save lives.

Diseases
Hospitals – need basic hygiene
Nursing

1820 – 1910
Genius
Reform & Faith
Crimean War
1853 – 1856

Death by Disease – telegraph

*In the long wars the real arbiter of the destiny of Nations is not the sword, but pestilence* (Nightingale, 1863, p. 3)
Rose Diagrams

- Overcrowding
- Lack of cleanliness
- Drainage
- Ventilation

Access to upper class
Secretary of War

British Sanitary Commission
Hospital in Scutari

Report led to changes in Care of Soldiers
Notes On Nursing

2010 voice recording
Mary Livermore

1820 - 1905

- Abolitionist
- Reporter
- Nurse
- Ran Chicago Office USSC
- Editor “Agitator”
- Women’s rights activist
- Prominent Speaker
REFORM NEEDED - disaster

Medical Crisis – Sanitation in camps/hospitals

Supply Crisis - Chaotic Volunteer response

1859  20,000
1865  2,000,000
US Sanitary Commission

Inspection – Camps/hospitals

Relief Supplies

Collect Supplies

Convalescence homes

Nursing sick

Messages to families

Fundraising

Warehouse supplies

Transport Wounded

Gardens to feed sick

Widows relief

Sanitary Fairs

Managed by women

Network of aid societies (women’s clubs)

$25 Million

Nurse made $3 week (90 hour week)
8.33 million weeks of nursing time.
Nursing

• Dix required nurses “be over thirty years of age, plain almost to repulsion in dress, and devoid of personal attractions” (Livermore, 1887, 246).

• Mature women – **Mother role**
  use the **moral authority** of Mother to serve the Union’s Sons

Clean bedding, Clean clothes, Good food
Inspect Camps & Hospital
Supply Transport
Wounded Soldier Transport
Fund raising – sanitary fairs
Most tangible accomplishment
- Better education for young women – established colleges (non-profit) for women. Jane Addams went to a college established by Livermore.

Intangible accomplishments
- Greater acceptance of women’s competency
- Missing link between female activism of the early 1800 and successful mass successful women’s movements of late 19th & early 20th century

EXPANDED WOMEN’S SPHERE - Open Door For

I registered a vow that when the war was over I would take up a new work – the work of making law and justice synonymous for women. I have kept my vow religiously (Livermore 1887/1995, 437).
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Urbanization & Industrialization

• Sanitation
• Labor and factory abuses
• Child welfare
Jane Addams
1860-1935

Funeral
Steps of Hull-House
Jane Addams  1860-1935

• Founder Settlement Movement
• Leader Suffrage Movement
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• Founder of Social Work
• Intellectual Leader Social Reform Movement
Brief Bio: Jane Addams

- Born: Small Town Illinois
- Father: Owned Mill, Bank and Illinois Senator
- Mother: Died when 2 –
- Rockford College: Valedictorian, Editor newspaper, President of Class, Debate Club President
- Founded Hull House – Chicago Settlement house
- Noted Speaker
- Noted Author 11 books
- Garbage Inspector
- Women’s Peace Conference
- Nobel Peace Prize
Settlement Movement

Toynbee Hall, England
Male Residents only

Hull House, Chicago – Dominant Women’s Voice

Both non-profit organizations
1889

400 Settlement Houses Nation wide by 1920
• Child labor laws
• Playgrounds
• Juvenile Courts

Led social reform

• Street Cleaning/garbage collection
• Water/Sewer
• Healthier workplace
• NAACP founder
Hull House Activities

drama classes,
day care programs,
coffee house/theater,
art and labor museum,
Sunday concerts,
choir,
over 25 clubs,
meeting rooms for organized labor,
cooperative apartments for young women
College Extension courses
Voter Registration
Speaker series....... 

first in Chicago to establish a public
bath,
gymnasium,
kitchen,
playground,
swimming pool.
LET US IMAGINE THROUGHOUT this article, if we can sustain an absurd hypothesis so long, the result upon society if the matriarchal period had held its own; if the development of the State had closely followed that of the Family until the chief care of the former, as that of the latter, had come to be the nurture and education of children and the protection of the weak, sick and aged. In short let us imagine a hypothetical society organized upon the belief that “there is no wealth but life.” With this Ruskinian foundation let us assume that the political machinery of such a society, the franchise and the rest of it, were in the hands of women because they had always best exercised those functions. Let us further imagine a given movement when these women, who is this hypothetical society had possessed political power from the very beginnings of the State, were being appealed to by the voteless men that men might be associated with women in the responsibilities of citizenship.
Municipal Housekeeping

City as Citadel

Criticized outmoded model of city governance

Business

Argued in favor of a more caring model of city government

Women should contribute

Addams Broadside
Paternalism

Woman’s sphere
Private Sphere

Duty
Moral Absolutism

Public Sphere – male domain

USSC
Municipal Housekeeping
Maternal Social Programs
Settlement Houses

Expand Women’s sphere
She nominated Roosevelt for the Progressive party presidential candidate.

26th President

She and Hover worked on post WWI humanitarian efforts

31st President

28th President

Social Reform Movement

Peace Movement

Responding to Hunger

Wilson nominated her for Nobel prize
US Peace Movement (1890s – WWI)

- Establish International “Law and Order”
- Arbitration
- US Supreme Court as Model
- Peace Good for Business
- Christian Values
- Women’s social policy agenda
Peace Organizations (Elite)
Social conservative
National political figures
Important Businessmen

Ford

Roosevelt

Wilson

Addams

Carnegie

Taft
World leaders actively sought new institutions, legal frameworks and policy tools
• multilateral treaties
• Permanent Court of Arbitration
• 1st formal statement laws of war, war crimes

War replaced by a system for the peaceful settlement of disputes among states.
THE TEXAS PEACE CONGRESS
HELD AT
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

1907

Sponsored by Baylor and Texas Federation of Women’s Clubs

Partial view of Baylor University Campus, where the Peace Congress was held
US & Texas Peace Movement
Woman’s Peace Party established – Jane Addams Leader

Maternal Instinct

- Women have an instinctive and rational opposition to war
- Women & Children suffer but not at table
- Need increase participation of women in politics.
- Linked to Suffrage

World War I

Aug. 1914
PRESIDENT WILSON SAYS:
“This is the time to support Woman Suffrage.”
Social Claim

International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace

April 1915
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

- Begin peace negotiations immediately
- Conference Neutral Nations
- Continuous Mediation
- Future disputes – arbitration
- Organization “Society of Nations”
- Acknowledge women’s suffering during war
- Give women right to vote
- Women participation in Peace Processes
Peace Delegation
Jane Addams Public Timeline

1889
Celebrated

1915
Demeaned
Traitor
Communist
Silly old woman

DOJ Surveillance

1935
Lost Historical Memory
World War I
Like an extinction event
For Peace Movement

- German sympathizers/traitors
- Communist sympathizers
- Quick to judge/unsupported claims – press/politicians
Suffrage Leader

Carrie Chapman Catt
Suffrage Movement
Used WWI as a way
To Prove Women’s value

War ended in 1918

19th Amendment 1919
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Federated Clubs

Supported the Maternal Policy Agenda – Programs for women and children

Women’s Bureau

Literary clubs – Libraries

Playgrounds

Municipal Housekeeping

Soap and Water Days - Texas
Organizing to influence Legislature
Targeting family violence
Texas Federation of Women’s Clubs  Headquarters Austin