Alice Paul
A Face in the Crowd

“Men plan, God laughs”

By Andrew Fonseca
Statement of Purpose

• You will be able to examine the key dilemmas and solutions of Alice during her crusade for women’s suffrage (the right to vote)

• We will uncover leadership qualities to help you a) identify the issues of the time, b) discover what options were available to women, and c) learn how Alice chose her courses of action

• You will also be able to find out how history effected what happened to Alice and the cause
Leadership Qualities (LQ’s)
Write these five qualities down so that you can look at them again during the rest of the presentation...

1. Determination/Perseverance
   - never giving up

2. Flexibility
   - ability to adjust to new problems/situations

3. Sound Arguments
   - based on logic and reason

4. Awareness/Respect for History
   - to prove arguments

5. Desire to better society
Personal Background of Alice Paul

- Grew up in a Quaker family
- Top student in school (college educated)
- Fought for suffrage in England before returning to the United States to do the same
- Hard worker who inspired people to help her
- Alice hated people who refused to take a stand on the issue of woman suffrage...felt they were worse than the anti-suffragists (film, Iron-Jawed Angels)
Recognizing the Problems

1. Taxation without representation \( (LQ \ #4) \)

2. Banned from jury duty; can’t be tried by peers \( (LQ \ #3) \)

3. No hand in making laws, only abiding by them (like children)
Alice’s Goals & Agenda

✓ Constitutional amendment guaranteeing women suffrage throughout United States

✓ Equality with men to: (LQ # 5)
  ▪ Earn income in trades/professions
  ▪ Have means of self-expression to satisfy personal ambitions (i.e. follow your dreams/express opinions)
  ▪ Have a voice in the government under which you live
Women’s Suffrage Movement: The Early Years

- Similarities noted between struggles of women and African Americans (LQ #’s 3 & 4)
  - Groups like NAWSA (National American Women Suffrage Association) made progress gaining equality and suffrage for women in states across the country
  - “tendency towards submission, efforts to be free from masters”
    - Professor Morie, UMass Lowell

[Image of suffrage poster and book cover]
Early Years (cont.)

- Seneca Falls Convention, 1848
- Declaration of Sentiments
  - Based on the Declaration of Independence
  - Outlined abuses against women by men
    - “The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman”
- By 1896, 16 states offered partial suffrage to women, and 5 states (CO, ID, UT, WA, & WY) offered full suffrage
“Election Day”

Examine the cartoon to the left and answer the following questions:

1. What is the message the artist is trying to send to the reader?
2. Does this show women suffrage in a positive or negative light?
3. Based on this cartoon, what do you think the main fears were of the anti-suffragists (people who didn’t want to give women the right to vote)?
Dilemmas and Opportunities

1. Unity and Support Issues
   - Competing groups and strategies

2. Political Obstacles
   - President Wilson and Congress

3. Society’s Flaws
   - Fighting discrimination

Key Questions

How did Alice Paul overcome these dilemmas?
Did she use the best methods and strategies?
How did her decisions benefit the cause?
Would you have done anything differently?
Dilemma # 1: Unity and Support

1. Alice Paul led Congressional Committee of NAWSA (Nat’l Amer. Women Suffrage Assoc.)
   - Sought a federal suffrage amendment

2. Alice Paul accused of illegal fundraising, bullied by leaders of NAWSA

3. Paul splits from NAWSA, forms NWP (Nat’l Women’s Party)
   - NAWSA and NWP do not cooperate with one another
   - NAWSA favors state-by-state approach, not federal amendment
Earning Support

Problems

1. No headquarters
2. No workers
3. No money/supplies
4. No publicity or way to spread message

Solutions/Opportunities

1. Rented house in Washington D.C.
2. Recruited women volunteers from streets, factories, private homes
3. Donations from wealthy citizens and anyone sympathetic to cause
4. Spoke on streets, hosted parties, wrote pieces in newspapers and popular magazines (LQ #’s 2 & 4)

*Held a parade on Wilson’s inauguration day
Dilemma # 2: Political Obstacles

**President Wilson**

- Claimed he needed time to consider the “special interest” issue, asked NAWSA and NWP to be patient

  “They’ll get tired of the cold... it [picketing by NWP women] won’t last long”

- Felt suffrage was not a national priority, focused instead on
  1. Currency revision
  2. Tariff reform
  3. Preventing WWI in Europe

  “He can’t fight for democracy abroad and deny it here at home” – Lucy Burns, friend of Alice’s

**Congress**

- Divided between pro- and anti-suffrage states

- Unwilling to consider an amendment unless President Wilson approved
Defeating Obstacles

- Protests and picket lines outside White House with banners quoting Wilson’s views on democracy (LQ # 5)

- Increased press coverage when protesters including Alice were attacked and later arrested on bogus charges (LQ # 2)

- While serving prison sentences, Alice began a hunger strike to gain more attention (LQ # 1)

- Wilson forced to call for amendment in order to avoid embarrassing the country in front of the rest of the world
Amendments must be ratified by three-fourths of the states in order to take effect, which meant that the people in each state had to want women’s suffrage. Alice Paul helped accomplish this in two ways:

1) Alice Paul promoted equality among all people

Ex: would not force black women to march in a separate group, even if some white groups would withdraw (LQ # 5)

2) Alice demonstrated the strength of women

Ex: Organizing the NWP, fighting the prejudice of men with power, and enduring physical pain in prison (LQ #'s 1, 2 & 5)
VICTORY!!!

- August 26th, 1920 the 19th Amendment is ratified

- Suffrage guaranteed for all women in United States
The issue of women’s suffrage divided the citizens of the United States because of its importance and how it would change society. We must be able to recognize issues of today that might have the same effects on our population. Let’s consider the debate today over gay marriage.

1. Find a partner who has a different opinion than you do about the issue.
2. Without arguing or trying to prove the other wrong, write down the other person’s views and reasons for their beliefs.
3. Does anything they say affect your opinions? Did any of your beliefs influence them?
### U.S. Women Labor Statistics


<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Total employed</th>
<th>Usually full time</th>
<th>Usually part time</th>
<th>Percent usually full time</th>
<th>Percent usually part time</th>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>29,688</td>
<td>21,929</td>
<td>7,758</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>42,117</td>
<td>30,845</td>
<td>11,270</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>53,689</td>
<td>40,165</td>
<td>13,524</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>63,586</td>
<td>47,916</td>
<td>15,670</td>
<td>75.4</td>
<td>24.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>66,925</td>
<td>50,380</td>
<td>16,545</td>
<td>75.3</td>
<td>24.7</td>
</tr>
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**Q:** What has happened to women employment from 1970-2006? Why do you think this has happened?
Information Wrap-up

- Alice Paul’s crusade for women’s suffrage
  - Leadership Qualities
  - Struggles (lies, violence, and degradation)
  - Dilemmas and Opportunities

- Exit Slip: Would you have done the same as Alice Paul? Why or why not?