



WOMEN OF OUR ERA

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Azra Jan
One Stop Advice & Training Centre

1960's BRITIAN

Many of us think of the 1960's as the year in which Britain had just started to forget about the Second World War and started to rebuild itself, it was seen as a time of possibilities.

The parents of a teenager in the Sixties had most likely spent their youth fighting for their lives in the Second World War and so wanted their own children to enjoy their youth and be able to have more fun and freedom, something they did not have.

As a result of a new culture of music, encouraging people to challenge and question authority, the Hippie movement was born. The 60's were a time in which the opinions of women had newly been heard and it was during the 60's that some of the greatest changes occurred.

“Feminism isn't about making women strong. Women are already strong. It's about changing the way the world perceives that strength.”

G.D. Anderson

Very few women worked after getting married; they stayed at home to raise their children and look after their homes. The man was considered the head of the household in all things for example mortgages, legal documents, bank accounts. Only the family allowance was paid directly to the mother. Should a woman find herself in a loveless or violent marriage, she was trapped; she had no money of her own and no career.

It was not the norm for women to attend colleges or universities as the expectations the society had of women revolved around them being housewives. Women being breadwinners was not a popular idea. However, all this started to change in the 1960's, themes such as rights, resistance, equality and ambition started finding a place within society.

THE 'SWINGING SIXTIES' A TIME OF GREAT CHANGE

"Back when I was helping put the swing into the swinging '60's, I used to hang out with Cathy McGowan. We'd be doing 'Ready steady go! 'On TV, and Biba used to make our dresses. We'd be in the flat in Cromwell Road, on Friday night, just before the live show, and they'd still be sewing."

Cilla Black

The 1960's were recognised as the swinging 60's because this was a time in which there was significant growth in British fashion and music. The music sensation during that time comprised of 'The Beatles' and 'Rolling stones'. It was a time in which people had overcome the troubles of war and started to live normal lives. The main focus of many, was to enjoy life and live as comfortably as possible. The Sixties saw a significant rise in the number of cars purchased along with other consumer goods.



The Beatles at Heathrow Airport before flying out to Sweden

During this period, the existing laws in England became equitable and so the legislation concerning women became more favourable towards them. Prior to new legislation women were often discriminated against at work, there was no concept of equal pay and many employers had a policy of asking women to leave their employment upon marriage. Parliament passed laws in the 60's giving women the right to equal pay thus making it illegal for any employer to discriminate against employee on the basis of gender. This was big!

The 1960s was also a time of technological progress. Britain and France developed the world's only supersonic commercial airliner, Concorde. New

styles of architecture, including high-rise buildings and the use of concrete and steel, became common. Britain was progressing in every way.

When the Second World War ended in 1945, it was quickly recognised that the reconstruction of the British economy required a large influx of immigrant labour. The Royal Commission on Population reported in 1949 that immigrants of 'good stock' would be welcomed 'without reserve', and potential newcomers from the Caribbean and elsewhere soon became aware of the pressing need of the labour market in the UK.

Post-war immigration attracted, large numbers of workers and their families from outside Europe, mainly from the Caribbean, India and Pakistan - the two separate states created by 'partition' after Britain relinquished its Indian empire in 1947. During the 1950s, in particular, Britain's non-white immigrant population increased rapidly in size.

From the Indian subcontinent, the majority of immigrants arrived in Britain during the 1950s -1960s. Although often lumped together as one group, these newcomers in fact came from a variety of backgrounds. They included Hindus from the Gujarat region of western India, Sikhs from the eastern Punjab region, and Muslims both from the west part of Pakistan and from East Pakistan (now Bangladesh)

And so it followed ... the government realised that the number of immigrants coming to the UK needed to be limited, therefore passed new laws restricting the number of migrants. As a result Immigrants were now required to have a strong connection to Britain through birth or ancestry in order to qualify as being eligible to live in Britain.

UK POPULATION

The population of the United Kingdom in the 1960's was estimated to be at 52.4 million. With nationalities mainly consisting of people originating from countries other than the UK itself e.g. India, Germany, Poland, Jamaica, USA and Italy.



WORKING WOMEN

“The day will come when men will recognize woman as his peer, not only at the fireside, but in councils of the nation. Then, and not until then, will there be the perfect comradeship, the ideal union between the sexes that shall result in the highest development of the race.”

Susan B. Anthony

Up until the 1960's the popular belief was that the best place for a woman is in the home where they are able to undertake chores such as cooking, cleaning and looking after their families.

However, the Second World War enabled people to see that women could carry out the same jobs as men so in the sixties it started becoming common for women to work.



English suffragette Estelle Sylvia Pankhurst (1882 - 1960) stands on a platform to paint the front of the Women's Social Defence League premises in Bow Road, East London, 11th October 1912

Women were commonly seen as either 'unskilled' or 'semi-skilled' therefore mostly carried out jobs such as clerks, typists and shop assistants. Unfortunately, despite doing 'like' work, women did not receive equal pay.

After several decades of negotiating reasons for equal pay eventually the 1970 Equal Pay Act was established, this however did not come into effect until after the 1970's. The 60's witnessed many social changes; in 1961 the contraceptive pill was introduced for all women.

This meant that women now had the freedom to express choice. Lives of women were taking a drastic change, with the new fashion being a mini skirt, Mary Quant, through her clothing line promoted women to 'show off' their bodies giving them what they felt was a sense of 'liberation'.



Fifteen young women in miniskirts outside conduit street, London, 1966

“You educate a man; you educate a man. You educate a woman; you educate a generation”

Brigham Young

WOMEN IN EDUCATION

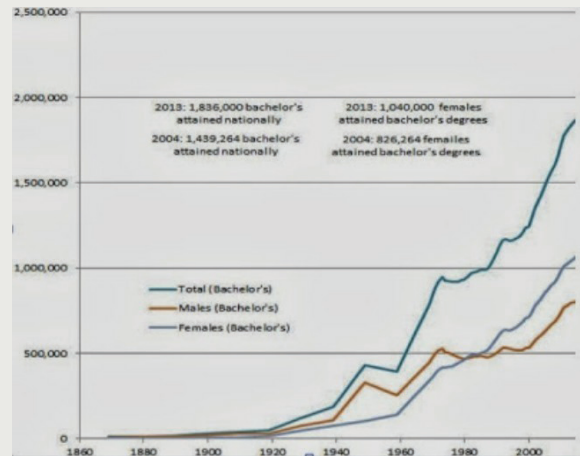
The 1960's saw a boom in the number of jobs made available to young single women. With over 26,000 girls going to university many women were now in a position to have aspirations beyond being a wife or mother. It was during these times that feminism began to find a voice within society. Movements like the 'Women's Liberation' demanding equal pay and opportunities were on the rise.

Between 1960 and 1970, the number of graduates more than doubled. By 1970-71, there were 236,000 students studying at universities and 204,000 at polytechnics, and the higher education participation rate had reached 8.4 per cent.

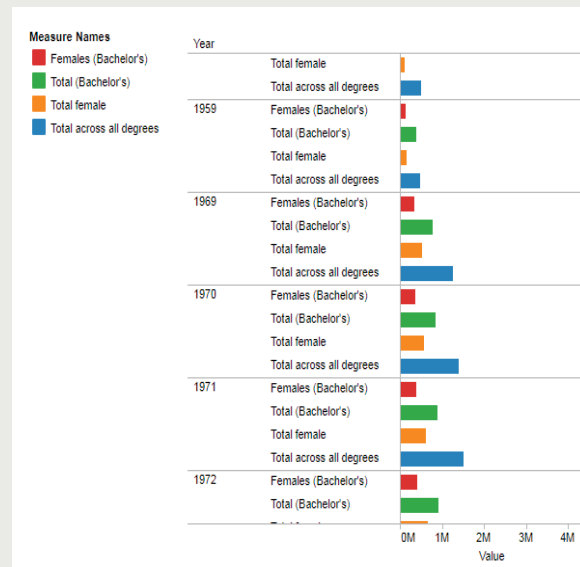
In 1961 there was a government initiative to encourage females into education and work. As part of this the Government launched a campaign to persuade 50,000 married women into teaching.

Over the last 50 years, the pace of change in higher education linked to the wider economy had sped up such that women now comprised over 50 percent of university undergraduate students across most countries.

'Women and Gender Equality in Higher Education?' Miriam E. David



The steady incline is evidence that more females were entering the academic field.



By the end of 1969 there were a total number of 792,316 people with a bachelor's degree of which 518,294 were females.

WOMEN AS BREADWINNERS

Women were no longer the sole home makers now, with the end of the Second World War and a rise in the number of jobs available to women, women were carrying out vital work and contributing towards the industry in a huge way. Light industries such as electronics continued to grow and provided many job opportunities for women along with service industries such as the financial sector. At this point many women were employed by shops, the National Health Service despite being paid less for doing the same job.



Image of women working in a toy factor in the 1960's

Although there was a significant change in the advancement of women, they still faced much discrimination in terms of pay. Women did not get paid equally as men for the jobs they were carrying out. This led to many ladies going on strike. In 1968 the women working at the Dagenham Fords went on strike demanding they get equal pay for the work they were carrying out.

Gwen Davis was such a lady who participated in this strike. In an interview conducted by the DB Women and Children's Association Gwen explained the reasons which forced women to strike;

“When you applied to Fords for a job as machinist, you had to have at least two years machining experience, before they would employ you as a machinist. They gave you a test to see if you could put different pieces of material together on an industrial machine to prove you knew how to machine. We fought for equal pay because we were skilled machinists and we wanted the same grade and wages as the men on skilled pay. We stopped production and Fords lost a lot of money because there were not any car seats to put into cars to sell”.

Gwen Davis

Gwen went on to elaborate that they fought for a skilled grade and wages because they were treated the same as the Janitors who did not require any special skills to carry out their jobs.

PRESENTLY...

The role of women has seen many changes, in terms of education, employment and home-makers. From being involved in jobs such as plumbing to running the entire country! In the year 2018 we are seeing the number of women on par with men, soaring in almost every aspect. The discriminatory elements present in the past are no longer existent and so future generations of women can aspire to achieve anything they want.



Emmeline Pankhurst – leader of the British suffragette movement

Emmeline Pankhurst – leader of the British suffragette movement

In the year 2018 we are celebrating a 100 years since the suffragette movement which was based on advocating the rights of women to vote in public elections. This movement was led

by Emmeline Pankhurst who was a British political activist and leader of the British suffragette movement. In 1999 Time magazine named Pankhurst as one of the 100 most important People of the 20th Century, stating "she shaped an idea of women for our time; she shook society into a new pattern from which there could be no going back". Pankhurst's work is recognised as a crucial element in achieving women's suffrage in the United Kingdom.

The fact that we currently have a female prime minister is evidence of how far society has come in subjugating differences.

It is interesting to note that during the '1960s-70s' women became increasingly involved in the formal political process however in 1970 there were only 26 female MPs out of a total of 650. Comparing these figures to now, where we have 208 female MP's sitting in the House of Commons, although this isn't a staggering increase, nevertheless there has been a significant incline in the figures.

In the late Stephen Hawking's words 'the Queen,

Prime Minister Theresa May, Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, Home Secretary Amber Rudd and the Met Police Commissioner Cressida Dick are evidence that times have changed'.

Five most powerful people in Britain are now women, he further stated that there has been a 'seismic shift' in gender equality.

Britain's most successful companies tend to have a large proportion of women in senior management roles.

Having seen success in the past through voicing their concerns via protests, women have overcome many hurdles. 2017 saw women joining together and marching to raise awareness about discrimination within various industries.

Womens march against sexual harrasment in the work place, on 21st January 2017, London, England.



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Women are no longer busying themselves in matters such as being able to wear clothes of choice, the right to work, playing an equal part in society etc...they are now more concerned with paving a lifestyle for future generations in which gender discrimination has no place.

The 'Female' role has undergone many changes, resulting in both genders now working together to achieve a common goal.

WHAT WOMEN WANT 2018 ...

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Women's groups have been set up to advocate for a wide range of economic justice issues affecting women, from the glass ceiling to the sticky floor of poverty. These include welfare reform, livable wages, job discrimination, pay equity, housing, social security and pension reform, and much more.

RACIAL JUSTICE

Issues such as race and sex discrimination on women of color are tackled. Seeing human rights as indivisible, women's groups are committed to identifying and fighting against those barriers to equality and justice that are imposed by racism.

LGBTQ RIGHTS

Women are joining together to fight discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in all areas, including employment, housing, public accommodations, health services, child custody and military policies. The right being stipulated is LGBT individuals to live their lives with dignity and security, and marriage equality for all.

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Women are standing united to tackle issues of violence against women, emphasizing that there are many interrelated aspects to the issue — domestic violence; sexual assault; sexual harassment; violence at abortion clinics; hate crimes across lines of gender, sexuality and race; the gender bias in our judicial system that further victimizes survivors of violence; and the violence of poverty emphasized by the radical right's attacks on poor women and children — all of which result from society's attitudes toward women and efforts to "keep women in their place."

Women are actively supporting their cause to further develop equality within the society. A lot has been done however much remains. The aspirations women have in 2018 can be summed up in the words of Louisa Alcott, an American novelist who said;

*"Far away there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations.
I may not reach them, but I can look up and see their
beauty, believe in them, and try to follow where they lead."*

Louisa May Alcott

TIMELINE OF HISTORICAL EVENTS IN THE 1960S

→ **14 JANUARY 1963**

France vetoes Britain's entry to the European Common Market

President of France Charles de Gaulle announced the French veto on Britain's application to join the European Common Market, the forerunner of the European Union. De Gaulle said the British government lacked 'commitment' to European integration.

→ **OCTOBER 1963**

New universities open and students get state support

The Robbins Report on Higher Education (1963) followed by the state-funded growth of universities. Government support was seen as necessary, not least in order to change the social composition of the student body. State-paid fees and maintenance were designed to help increase the percentage of working-class students.

→ **19 OCTOBER 1963**

Conservative Sir Alec Douglas-Home became prime minister

Sir Alec Douglas-Home became Conservative party's leader and prime minister following the resignation of Harold Macmillan on health grounds. He became the fourth Conservative prime minister since 1951.

→ **1964**

Abolition of Resale Price Maintenance prompts the rise of supermarkets

Resale Price Maintenance obliged shops to sell goods at standard prices set by suppliers, thus preventing the search for better business through undercutting. This helped small independent shopkeepers in their resistance to larger traders.

→ **15 OCTOBER 1964**

Labour wins the general election, with Harold Wilson as prime minister

Labour, under Harold Wilson, narrowly won the general election, by 317 seats to 304 for the Conservatives. Considered something of an intellectual, Wilson successfully contrasted his 'meritocratic' beliefs against his 'establishment' opponent, Conservative Alec Douglas-Home.

→ **12 JULY 1965**

Comprehensive education system is initiated

Circular 10/65', issued by the Labour government's education secretary, Anthony Crosland, obliged local education authorities to draw up plans for replacing the existing division between 'grammar' and 'secondary modern' schools in order to create all-inclusive 'comprehensive' schools. This was the first step towards a comprehensive education system that served all pupils on an equal basis.

→ **8 NOVEMBER 1965**

Death penalty is abolished

The abolition of the death penalty for murder. This was a major symbolic act in the reduction of the power of the state.

→ **31 MARCH 1966**

Labour strengthened its parliamentary position in the general election

Labour's share of the vote went up from 44.1% in the 1964 general election to 48%, and the Conservatives down from 43.4 to 41.9. Leaving Harold Wilson, the Labour prime minister, with a much-improved majority of nearly 100.

→ **30 JULY 1966**

England win the football World Cup

England defeated West Germany in the World Cup final, which was held at Wembley and watched by 93,000 people in the stadium and 400 million people around the world on television.

→ **1967**

Abortion and homosexuality legalised

-1967 Sexual Offences Act, which legalised homosexuality between men over 21, and the 1967 Abortion Act which legalised abortion under certain conditions.
- 1969 Divorce Reform Act
-1970 Equal Pay Act.

→ **1 JUNE 1967**

Beatles release 'Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band'

This was the Beatles' eighth album, and is widely recognised as one of the most influential records ever released. The album was heavily influenced by the group's increasing use of drugs, and enjoyed immediate critical and popular success at the start of the 'psychedelic era'. Peter Blake's collage for the album cover has become iconic.

→ **2 MARCH 1969**

Concorde, the world's first supersonic airliner, makes its maiden flight

The first supersonic airliner was developed jointly by Britain and France. It did not begin commercial flights until 1976.

→ **8 JUNE 1970**

Conservatives win the general election, with Edward Heath as prime minister

The Conservatives won the general election by 330 seats to 287 for Labour.

1960's TIMELINE OF WOMEN

→ **1964**

The Married Women's Property Act entitled a woman to keep half of any savings she had made from the allowance she was given by her husband.

→ **1965**

Barbara Castle was appointed Minister of Transport, became the first female minister of state.

→ **1967**

Labour MP David Steel sponsors an Abortion Law Reform Bill, which became the Abortion Act. The Act decriminalised abortion in Britain on certain grounds. Originally, abortion was entirely illegal, but was changed to make it legal when the woman was in danger of dying. However, in

→ **1938**

Dr. Alex Bourne deliberately challenged the law to clarify what constituted legal practice in relation to abortions. He performed an abortion on a 14-year-old rape victim, though her life was not in danger. The doctor won and the 'Bourne Judgement' opened the way for other doctors to interpret the law more flexibly. The Women's Abortion and Contraception Campaign played a significant role in the passage of the act. The contraceptive pill became available through Family Planning Clinics. The NHS (Family Planning) Act permitted health authorities to give contraceptive advice regardless of marital status and the Family Planning Association (FPA) followed suit.

→ **1968**

Women at the Ford car factory in Dagenham carried out a strike over equal pay, almost stopping production at all Ford UK plants. Their protest led directly to the passing of the Equal Pay Act.

→ **1970S**

Working women were refused mortgages in their own right as few women worked continuously. They were only granted mortgages if they could secure the signature of a male guarantor. Britain's first national Women's Liberation Conference was held at Ruskin College. This was the first time women's groups from across Britain had met in a single place. The Women's Liberation Movement (WLM), influential throughout the 1970s, developed from the conference.



NAME: RACHEL HOPKINS

Year of Birth: 1972

Occupation: Councillor

Rachel Hopkins was born in Luton in the year 1972. Growing up in Luton she completed her basic education here however she eventually went on to study French & Politics at Leicester University. Rachel was a teenager in the 1980's, she discusses growing up during that time period and explains how different it was compared to the life of an average teenager today. 'We didn't have mobile phones when we were young so a lot more time was spent physically with your friends because you couldn't just message them. Growing up I enjoyed being out and about we'd often be out with our friends.

Being a teenager in the 1960's and 80's was not too distant in terms of technology as the trend of using mobile phones hadn't really kicked in. Rachel's aspirations growing up were not entirely focused on becoming a councillor despite having both parents involved in Politics. Having worked in a number of various organisations the Rachel noticed that there were fewer women in senior posts then.

'Local government commission for England had a female chief executive and she was great she was a woman leader, she gave me a lot of encouragement and I stepped up and became a manager in that organisation. It was really good to see a woman leader because it encouraged me to do more. I think what we often need to do is talk about the opportunities, encourage women to take a step into something that may be different.'

Looking back at the experiences of Rachel's mother, the situation in terms of career prospects was quite different as her mother wanted to pursue a career as a teacher however was discouraged by her father, instead he advised her to go on to a secretarial college and qualify as a secretary.

The role of family support varied in those days as you needed an element of 'approval' in order to move on however as time progressed Rachel's mother no longer needed approval of her father and so she went on to pursue her dream of becoming a teacher.



NAME: SHARON FLOWERS

Year of Birth: 1960

Occupation: Head teacher

Sharon Flowers is the Head teacher of a primary school in Luton. We asked her to share some of her memories of growing up in the 1960's.

Sharon says that life was quite different then however 'some of the regular mischievous activities children get up to today still happened in those days'. Sharon was brought up in a household where both parents worked and so she was never discouraged from pursuing her dreams.

Sharon recalls one of her very first jobs being at a bank, 'I walked past the bank one day and went in just to ask about a vacancy because all of my friends were working in banks at the time. They said come in and meet the manager, it was a lady manger and in those days a lady manager was unheard because they just didn't have ladies working as mangers at the bank.so I met with her, she picked up the phone and said I'm offering you the job just like that'. It was empowering to know that a female had the authority to hire people on. Sharon talks about the difference in terms of recruitment today.

It is very refreshing to see that women are now able to progress in terms of their employment, they can now aspire to be on par with the men and achieve similar salaries to those being obtained by their peers.

Sharon recalls growing up in the 70's as being a joyful time. 'We didn't have a coloured telly back then, and I remember walking down the street and peeking through the curtains to get a glimpse of my neighbour's television'. They were the simpler times.

It is very motivating and inspirational for the young girls today to be able to look up at a female head teacher and feel that they too can aspire to work in a senior leadership role. Sharon reiterated that there is a need for more women in the medical professions and sciences. There needs to now be a shift of focus from gender to skill. Sharon's message for the next generation; 'don't forget common sense and don't be easily swayed by people, strive to achieve your goals'.



NAME: LIZ MEAD

Year of Birth: 1971

Occupation: Head of Crime in Bedfordshire, Responsible for Serious crime, Domestic & Sexual offences and Guns & Gangs

Liz, is a very reputable member of the Bedfordshire Police Force, having worked within the force from the age of 19 years, Liz has managed to achieve what will be motivational for both men and women alike. In her 28 year career with the police force she says she hasn't really experienced any discrimination, being a woman who is now leading and training police men and women, Liz is also a mother.

"I am a mum to a 22-year-old and fortunately I have been able to combine having a family with a challenging and exciting career. The experience I'd gained from working in many different departments helped demonstrate my leadership skills and I became a Senior Investigating Officer (SIO) investigating things like murder, kidnap and rapes across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire." Growing up, Liz had all the support from her parents, they encouraged her to pursue her dream of joining the police force. Growing up Liz would spend a great deal of time watching police programmes and so her parents were aware how passionate she was.

Liz says that these days there's absolutely nothing that women are not capable of doing. Majority of the senior positions are held by females. 'Sometimes you have to do more to try and prove yourself, women were not in tough professions in the 60's'.

With a reasonable amount of females being represented now the main focus is on encouraging diversity within the police force, we want to have a police force which everyone can relate to. Liz Mead is due to retire in 2 years and has left a legacy for women by not only being involved in a profession which is stereotyped as male profession but by a very successful member of the team.

Famous women's rights activists from 1960's onwards



At a time when women were paid a fraction of the wage of their male counterparts, the seeds of change were sown in 1961 when former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt and Esther Peterson, director of the United States Women's Bureau, were asked by President John F Kennedy to head up a new Commission on the Status of Women. Tasked with studying women's role in society, the committee was attended by top officials, senators, psychologists, activists and professors. Though it eventually fell short of recommending an equal rights amendment that would guarantee pay parity, the work of the high-profile body meant women's rights began to be seen as a serious issue for political debate and policy-making. This had a ripple effect, other countries namely the UK started to feel the impact women could have on culture.



If a man fights his adversaries, he's called determined. If a woman does it, she's frustrated.

— *Esther Peterson* —

VALERIE WISE

Valerie Wise was a significant figure in Ken Livingstone's administration at the Greater London Council as chair of the GLC Women's Committee, the first committee of its kind in UK government. She became the chair at age 25, and thus was the youngest woman ever elected to a London-wide authority. Although much derided during its time as a 'rabid feminist' outfit of the 'loony left', many of the issues that the women's committee fought for and supported are now enshrined in UK law. However, some Labour politicians believed these policies contributed to their 1987 general election defeat.



NAME: NATASHA WALTER

Year of Birth: 1967

Occupation: British feminist writer and human rights activist

Walter was the founder in 2006 and director of the charity Women for Refugee Women which supports women who seek asylum. In 2008 Women for Refugee Women produced the play Motherland which Natasha Walter wrote based on the experiences of women and children in immigration detention.



NAME: HILARY WAINWRIGHT

Year of Birth: 1949

Occupation: British sociologist, political activist and socialist feminist

Best known for being editor of Red Pepper magazine. A researcher and writer, Wainwright is concerned with the emergence of new forms of democratic accountability within parties, movements and the state. She has documented examples of resurgent democratic movements in many countries around the world and the lessons they provide for progressive politics



NAME: CAROL CHRISTINE SMART CBE

Year of Birth: 1948

Occupation: Feminist sociologist and academic at the University of Manchester

She has also conducted research about divorce and children of divorced couples. Smart is an important figure within the feminist criminology world. Her book titled Women, Crime and Criminology, written in 1976, remains a key feminist critique of criminology. Smart was also the co-director of the Morgan Centre for the Study of Relationships and Personal Life at Manchester.

2018 and still going strong...



NAME: ANGELA DOROTHEA MERKEL

Angela Dorothea Merkel is a German politician serving as Chancellor of Germany since 2005 and leader of the centre-right Christian Democratic Union since 2000. The de facto leader of Europe, Merkel won a hard-fought election that saw the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) party creep into the Bundestag.



NAME: THERESA MARY MAY

Theresa Mary May is a British politician serving as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Leader of the Conservative Party since 2016. She served as Home Secretary from 2010 to 2016. Theresa May is currently faced with the task of guiding her country through what is the most challenging time for Britain (Brexit).



NAME: EMMA WALMSLEY

Walmsley became CEO of GlaxoSmithKline in April, making her the first woman to run a major pharmaceutical company. Previously, she led the company's consumer healthcare joint venture with Novartis. With pressure on drug prices challenging the pharmaceutical industry, Walmsley is reorganizing the company's R&D operations, cutting 30 drug-development programs and selling 130 drug brands.



NAME: MELINDA GATES

Gates continues her run as the most powerful woman in philanthropy as co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Her laser focus on health is having a real impact as she showed in the foundation's first "Goalkeepers" report which presented hard metrics behind the giving. Maternal deaths in Ethiopia, for example, are down 57% since 1990 thanks, in part, to foundation efforts to get more mothers to give birth in health care facilities.



NAME: SUSAN WOJCICKI

Susan Wojcicki has been CEO of YouTube since February 2014; she has focused increasingly on keeping disturbing content and hoaxes off the website. She advocated for Google's \$1.65 billion acquisition of YouTube in 2006; the video site is now worth an estimated \$90 billion. Google's 16th employee, hired in 1999, she started as the search firm's first marketing manager and later headed all marketing and commerce. Wojcicki also sits on the board of Salesforce.com.

We have heard of the individual Suffragettes, the ones with the most remarkable stories. Marion Wallace Dunlop, the first to go on a hunger strike. Emily Davison, who was struck by the king's horse. Emmeline Pankhurst, the leader of the British movement. Sophia Duleep Singh, the Indian Princess who lived in Hampton Court Palace. All of these women strove for the same thing... equality, but their power was not individual. The Suffragette movement was a collective effort which is the reason why, it was a strong movement, it wasn't just these women fighting the cause. It was an army of mothers, sisters, and daughters all in the struggle together. The struggle has found itself in the 21st century continuing the fight to achieve the objective of one day not being discriminated against on grounds of gender.

Find out more

BOOKS

Women's History in Britain, 1850-1945 ed. June Purvis (London UCL Press 1995) A collection of essays covering a range of topics from women's work and the family to education, health, sexuality and politics.

The First Industrial Woman by Deborah Valenze (Oxford OUP, 1995) Good on the implications of shifting employment patterns, agricultural work and domestic service.

A History of European Women's Work, 1700 to the present by Deborah Simonton, (New York Routledge, 1998) Good for the longer time perspective and for European similarities and contrasts.

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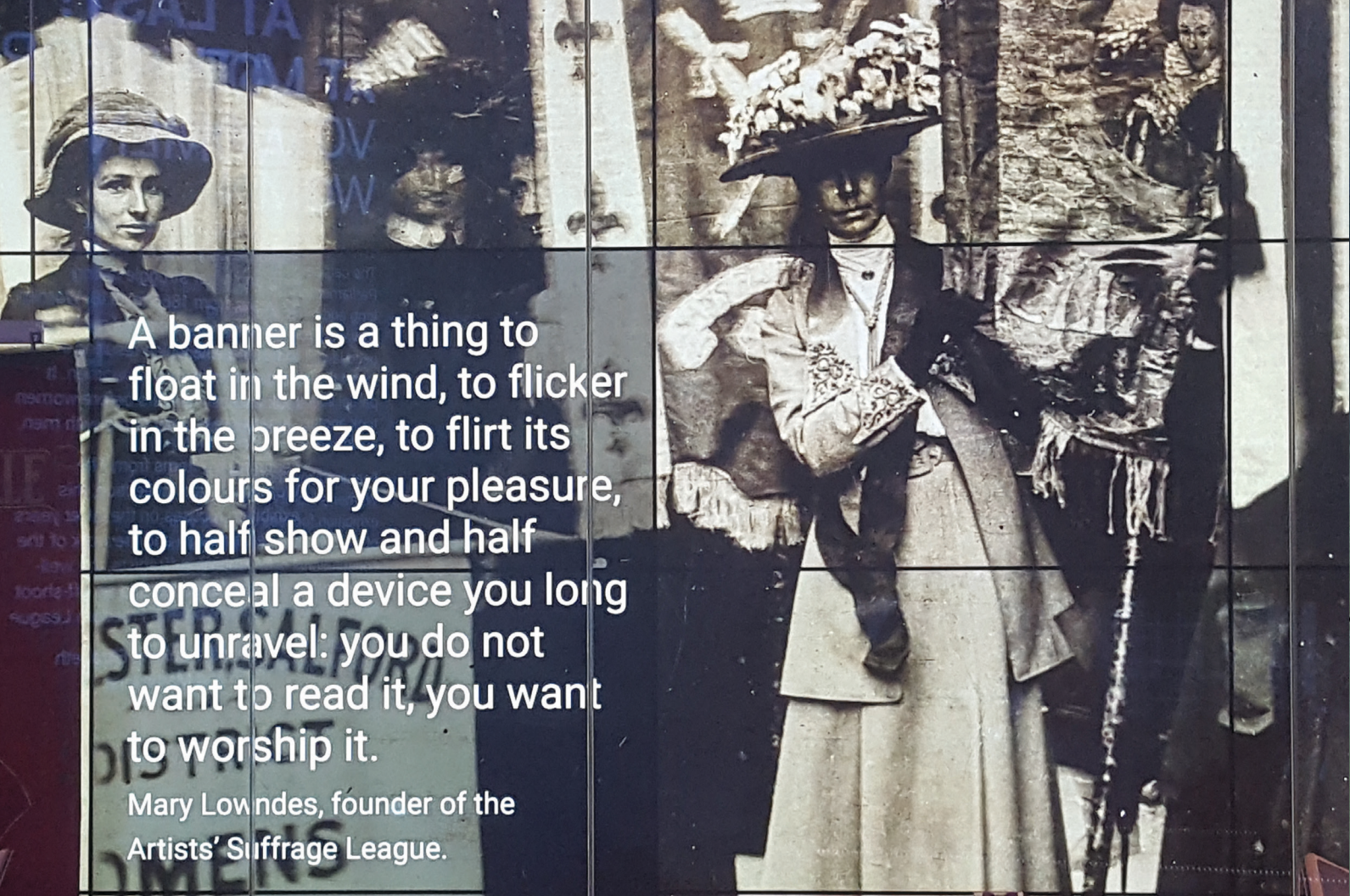
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Zainab Shah

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A banner is a thing to float in the wind, to flicker in the breeze, to flirt its colours for your pleasure, to half show and half conceal a device you long to unravel: you do not want to read it, you want to worship it.

Mary Lowndes, founder of the Artists' Suffrage League.



We know we have the power in us to make this world a better place for the future generations to be born into. We do not become militants after we become members of the WSPU. We join the WSPU because we are already convinced that militant tactics are the way and the only way to success.

Katie Gliddon on why she broke a window on 4 March 1912.

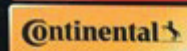


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