Visualizing Votes for Women

Recommended Books on Women’s Suffrage and Voting Rights


“Ware’s excellent compendium expertly shows there are new ways to tell the suffrage story. This is a must-read for those interested in women’s and American history.” —Publishers Weekly

“Ware places 19 women who’ve been overlooked because of race, class or sexuality back on the front lines of the fight for the ballot. Their stories provide readers with an intimate account of the unheralded activism that won women the right to vote, and an opportunity to celebrate a truly diverse cohort of first-wave feminist changemakers.” —Ms.

Five New Books on Women’s Suffrage Everyone Should Read


“The best book on the U.S. women’s suffrage movement for the general reader. For anyone interested in but not highly conversant with the history of the United States movement, this is the ideal book by one of the nation’s leading historians of the struggle…. If a reader seeks a large amount of knowledge inside a beautifully written tale that can be read in several days at most, this is the book to choose.”

—Amazon Review


“Martha Jones is the political historian of African American women. And this book is the commanding history of the remarkable struggle of African American women for political power…. All Americans would be better off learning this history and grasping just how much we owe equality's vanguard.”

—Ibram X. Kendi, *National Book Award winner*


“Weaving together a diverse collection of portraits and other visual materials—including photographs, drawings, paintings, prints, textiles, and mixed media—along with biographical narratives and trenchant essays, this comprehensive book presents fresh perspectives on the history of the movement….With nearly 200 color illustrations…. Published in association with the National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C.”

—press.princeton.edu

votesforwomen.cliohistory.org/19objects

“This provocative work challenges the standard narrative of the history of the women's rights movement in the United States. Even more important, however, it aids readers in understanding how collective historical memory is created and shaped…. Fascinating…. Recommended for scholars in women's history, constitutional history, and late 19th-century American history.” —Library Journal


“This is a clear and genial guide with an ear for telling language…. She also shows a superb sense of detail, and it’s the deliciousness of her details that suggests certain individuals warrant entire novels of their own… Weiss’s thoroughness is one of the book’s great strengths. So vividly had she depicted events that by the climactic vote (spoiler alert: The amendment was ratified!), I got goose bumps.”


**Classics Everyone Should Read**


“The book you are about to read tells the story of one of the great social movements in American history. The struggle for women's voting rights was one of the longest, most successful, and in some respects most radical challenges ever posed to the American system of electoral politics…. For sheer drama the suffrage movement has few equals in modern American political history.” —From the Preface by Ellen Fitzpatrick


“When and Where I Enter reveals the immense moral power black women possessed and sought to wield throughout their history — the same power that prompted Anna Julia Cooper in 1892 to tell a group of black clergymen, Only the black woman can say when and where I enter, in the quiet, undisputed dignity of my womanhood, without violence and without suing or special patronage, then and there the whole … race enters with me.” —harpercollins.com


“A first-rate piece of research. The papers of the woman suffrage leaders are a gold mine of social and intellectual history, and … Kraditor is the first to make full use of them…. As a result of her work, the textbooks will have to be revised, and much of the oversimplification on the subject now in print will quietly fade from sight.” —Anne Firor Scott, Duke University, reviewing the 1965 edition

“A landmark work of women's history originally published in 1967, Gerda Lerner's best-selling biography of Sarah and Angelina Grimké explores the lives and ideas of the only southern women to become antislavery agents in the North and pioneers for women's rights. In a revised introduction Lerner reinterprets her own work nearly forty years later and gives new recognition to the major significance of Sarah Grimké's feminist writings.” —uncpress.org


“Rarely has a short book accomplished so much as Terborg-Penn's seminal work. With the utmost attention to detail Terborg-Penn examines the contributions of black suffragist stalwarts... It undoubtedly will become the definitive work on African American women's involvement in the mainstream woman suffrage movement and specifically on black women's struggle for the vote.” —Choice

**Illustrated Histories of the Suffrage Movement**


**Biographical Studies of Suffragists**


**Books that Center Histories of Women of Color**


**Books on International Women’s Rights**


**Collections of Scholarly Essays**


**Books Providing Overviews from a Variety of Perspectives**


**Books on Women and Politics After 1920**


**Books that Allow You to Dig Deeper into the Sources**

