

1848  
FIRST CONVENTION FOR  
WOMAN'S RIGHTS  
WAS HELD ON THIS CORNER  
1848  
STATE EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT 2002

**On July 19 and 20, 1848, more than 300 people attended the first Women's Rights Convention at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Seneca Falls, New York**

# “Declaration of Sentiments”



The theme of the convention was the “Declaration of Sentiments”, which declared “all men and women are created equal.” The document demanded equal rights for women in property and custody laws, educational opportunities, and participation in the church, professions, and politics.

# The importance of the Convention

This Convention was the beginning of a seventy-two year battle to gain the right for women to vote in the United States.

Despite the active leadership of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Martha Wright, many people still do not know who these women, or their male supporters were.

**“A Chance Meeting”  
Amelia Bloomer introduces Susan B.  
Anthony to Elizabeth Cady Stanton in  
Seneca Falls.**



# SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF SENTIMENTS

Lucretia Mott  
Harriet Cady Eaton  
Margaret Pryor

Phebe Mosher  
Catharine Shaw  
Deborah Scott

Phebe King  
Julia Ann Drake  
Charlotte Woodard

P.A. Culvert  
Susan R. Doty  
Rebecca Race

## Why did the Women's Rights Convention take place in Seneca Falls, New York?

Central New York in the 1800's was an area known for sweeping reforms. By 1840, it had changed religiously during the Great Awakening and the Second Great Awakening. Much of these reforms were due to the numerous members of the "Society of Friends" or Quakers who made their homes in the region. At a time in American history when women had virtually no rights, it was the Quakers who provided model relationships where men and women worked and lived equally.

Catharine C. Paine  
Elizabeth W. McClintock  
Malvina Seymour

Mary Conklin  
Susan Quinn  
Mary S. Mirror

Margaret Jenkins  
Cynthia Fuller  
Mary Martin

Antoinette E. Segur  
Hannah J. Latham  
Sarah Sisson

# Elizabeth Cady Stanton

**She was responsible for creating the Convention and wrote the first draft of the “Declaration of Sentiments” out of a strong sense of injustice and righteous indignation at the plight of women.**

**She later became one of the most important leaders of human rights in American history.**



## **Susan B. Anthony**



**Susan B. Anthony worked for many reforms, including suffrage, temperance, and abolition.**

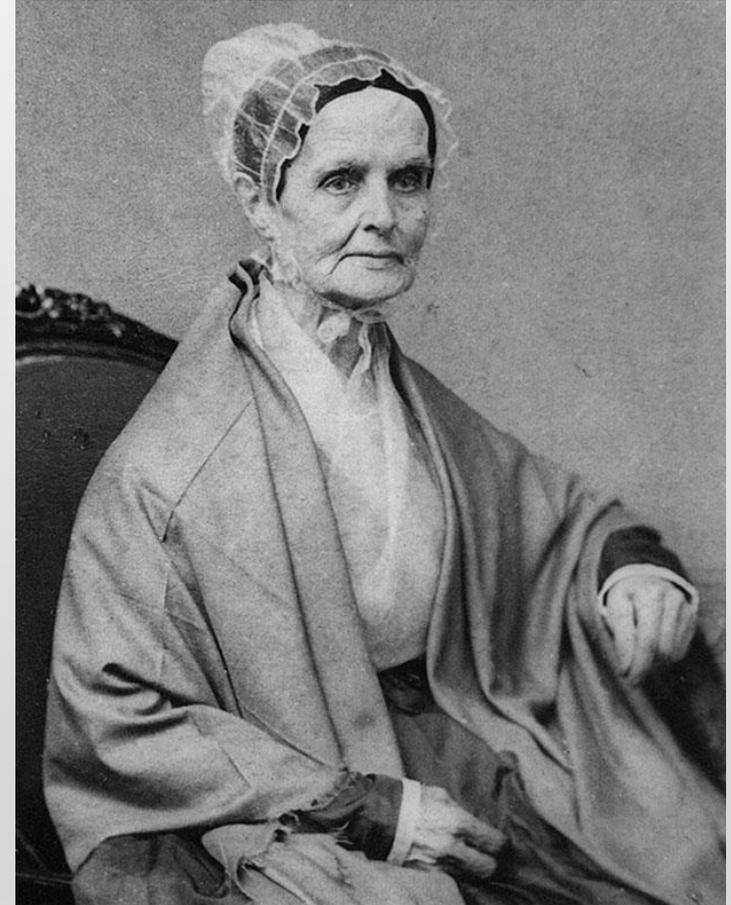
**Susan B. Anthony recognized that without the right to vote women would keep fighting the same battles for equality over and over again. She traveled many miles, giving hundreds of speeches, gathering thousands of signatures on petitions, and organizing suffragists, to press for women's suffrage.**

# Lucretia Coffin Mott

She was an American Quaker who formed the idea of reforming the position of women in society.

In 1848 she was invited by Jane Hunt to the Seneca Falls Convention, during which Mott co-wrote the "Declaration of Sentiments".

When the United States outlawed slavery in 1865, she advocated giving former slaves, both male and female, the right to vote (suffrage). She remained a central figure in reform movements until her death in 1880.



## Martha Coffin Wright



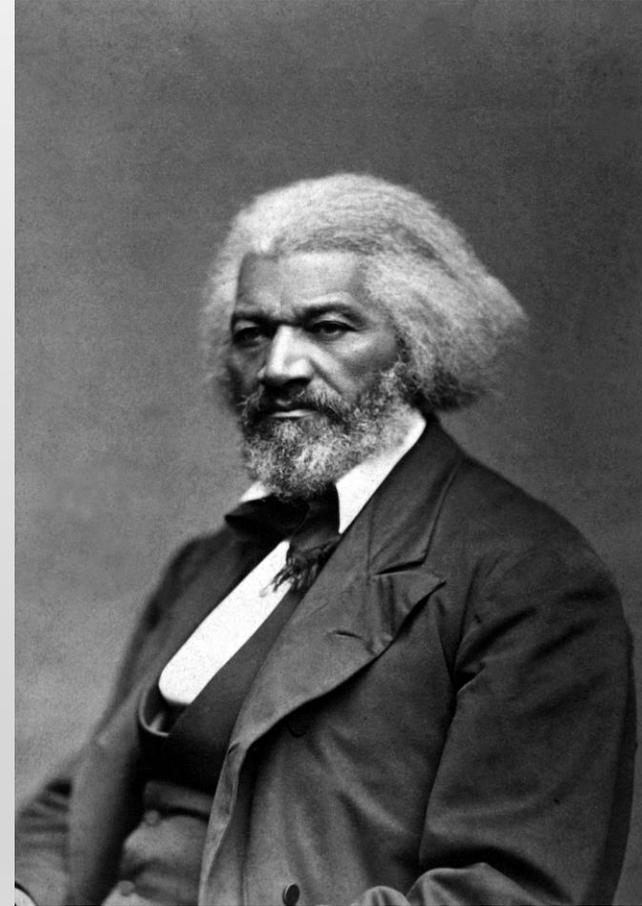
**Martha Coffin Wright was the youngest of eight children and the sister of Lucretia Coffin Mott. Described as "a stalwart of the state antislavery society and ...one of the inner circle of woman's rights leaders until the end of her life."**

**An avid letter writer and wit, she left valuable archives of correspondence on woman's rights and woman suffrage.**

# Frederick Douglass

He was a former slave and prominent abolitionist lecturer, published the *North Star*, one of the few African-American antislavery newspapers in America.

At the first Women's Rights Convention, he publicly seconded Elizabeth Cady Stanton's highly controversial motion for the right of women to vote.



## Mary Ann M'Clintock



She and her husband Thomas were leaders in the Quaker reform and abolition movements. She and Lucretia Mott wrote the *Female Anti-Slavery Society's Appeal* in 1832.

It was at their house that the “Declaration of Sentiments” was written for the first Women’s Rights Convention.



### Sources

<https://www.nps.gov/wori/index.htm>

<https://susanb.org/suffragist/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucretia\\_Mott](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucretia_Mott)