

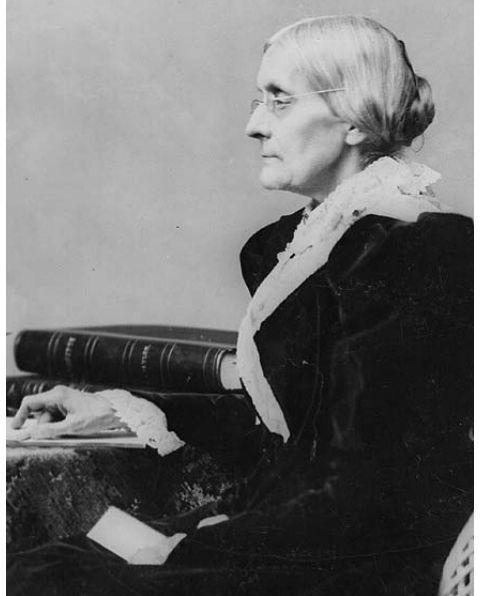
The Legacy of John Adams

Susan B. Anthony jailed for voting

Along with 14 other women, Susan B. Anthony registered to vote in Rochester on November 1, 1872. A few days later, on November 5, they cast their ballots, however, at the time women did not have the legal right to vote in New York State.

Anthony believed the recently-adopted Fourteenth Amendment gave women the constitutional right to vote in federal elections. The Amendment said that “all persons born and naturalized in the United States...are citizens of the United States,” and as citizens were entitled to the “privileges” of citizens of the United States. She believed one of those privileges was voting and sought the advice of Judge Henry Rogers Selden who agreed.

Anthony, the other women and the male voting inspectors who had registered them were arrested on November 28. Bail was set and all but Anthony elected to pay the \$500. Anthony’s attorney-friend, Judge Selden, twice paid Anthony’s bail and arranged for her release.



Susan B. Anthony

Susan Anthony used the four months before her trial to tour Rochester and the surrounding area, explaining her belief in a woman’s right to vote.

In June 1873, when the attorneys had finished arguing Anthony’s case before a jury of 12 men in the Canandaigua courthouse, Justice Ward Hunt read a prepared statement that the Fourteenth Amendment did not protect Anthony’s right to vote. Hunt instructed the clerk to direct a jury verdict of guilty and refused to have the jury polled. The judge punished Anthony by requiring her to pay a \$100 fine plus the cost of the prosecution. Selden again stepped forward and paid her fine.

Susan B. Anthony didn’t live to see the 1921 ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment, giving women the right to vote.

Newspaper Activities:

- ◆ Imagine you lived during Susan B. Anthony’s time. Draw a political cartoon or write an editorial about how Anthony or someone else in the case might have felt.
- ◆ Susan B. Anthony took risks to bring about social change. Read through several editions of your local newspaper (in-print or online) and look for a topic that raises the question of fairness. As a class, brainstorm possible ways to remedy the situation, to make treatment “fairer.” Choose what you consider the best option and write a letter to the editor.

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Look through editions of the newspaper for editorials. Note how these persuasive pieces use facts to support their opinion. Imagine you lived during Susan B. Anthony's times. Use these editorials as a model and write how Anthony or someone else involved in the case might have felt. Use the grid below, organize the facts you've found concerning women's right to vote. Be sure to include the points that support the opposing point of view. By knowing and understanding the opposition's argument, you can strengthen your own position.

SUPPORTING FACTS	
PROS	CONS

Follow up: As a class, share opinions verbally during a controlled debate.

Better at expressing yourself visually? On the back of this sheet draw an editorial cartoon that clearly argues your side of the issue.