

# TWELVE REASONS

## WHY WOMEN SHOULD VOTE

1. **BECAUSE** it is the foundation of all political liberty that those who obey the Law should have a voice in choosing those who make the Law.
  2. **BECAUSE** most Laws affect women as much as men, and some Laws affect women more than they do men.
  3. **BECAUSE** the Laws which affect women are now passed without consulting them.
  4. **BECAUSE** Laws affecting children should be regarded from the woman's point of view as well as the man's.
  5. **BECAUSE** questions affecting the home come up for consideration in every session of the Legislature and of Congress.
  6. **BECAUSE** women have experience which should be helpfully brought to bear on legislation.
  7. **BECAUSE** to deprive women of the vote is to lower their position in common estimation.
  8. **BECAUSE** the possession of the vote would increase the sense of responsibility among women toward questions of public importance.
  9. **BECAUSE** public-spirited mothers mean public-spirited sons.
  10. **BECAUSE** large numbers of intelligent, thoughtful, hard-working women desire the franchise.
  11. **BECAUSE** the objections raised against their having the franchise are based on sentiment, not on reason.
  12. **BECAUSE** to sum up all reasons in one—**IT IS FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL.**
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WOMEN'S POLITICAL UNION OF NEW JERSEY

79 Halsey Street



Newark, N. J.

# NEW JERSEY SHOULD RATIFY THE FEDERAL SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT:

**BECAUSE** it is in accordance with the law. The Constitution of the United States provides that when an amendment shall have received the votes of two-thirds of the members of the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives, it shall be referred to the LEGISLATURES of the several States for ratification, and when three-quarters of them shall have voted to ratify it, it shall become the law of the land. THE EIGHTEEN PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS HAVE ALL BEEN RATIFIED IN THIS WAY.

**BECAUSE** a referendum to the voters would not be legally binding upon the Legislature, although it would cost the State as much money, and the suffragists as much time and effort as if it were a binding referendum.

**BECAUSE** a real referendum is to be taken this Fall, when the voters vote for candidates who favor or oppose woman suffrage. The suffragists will inform the voters how every candidate stands upon this question.

**BECAUSE** the election laws of New Jersey make inadequate provision for safe-guarding the vote at special elections. In 1915 the election was held on a registration day, and thousands of men voted immediately after registering, thus giving no opportunity for checking up their addresses or right to vote. The police canvass before the general election that year removed from the books as "illegally registered" the names of thousands of men, but all of those men had had an opportunity to vote on the suffrage amendment.

**BECAUSE** within two months of the passage of the suffrage amendment by Congress fourteen State Legislatures ratified, i. e., those of Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Kansas, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Texas, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Montana and Nebraska. There is every likelihood that thirty-six Legislatures (exclusive of New Jersey) will have ratified before next Spring, thus enfranchising all the women of the land, so that if New Jersey delays ratification until 1921, its women will be enfranchisement by the men of other States. This will be bitterly humiliating to the women of New Jersey, whose intelligence, loyalty and patriotism merit better treatment.

**BECAUSE** there has been a tremendous change in sentiment since 1915. New York defeated suffrage then by exactly the same percentage as New Jersey, 48 to 42%; but in New York the Constitution allowed the question to be voted on again two years later and then suffrage carried by 100,000 majority. Since 1915 State after State has voted for woman suffrage so that today women have full suffrage in Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, South Dakota, Kansas, Oklahoma, Michigan, and New York; and Presidential suffrage in North Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee, Maine, Vermont, Rhode Island, Ohio, Texas, and Arkansas. NO STATE WHICH HAS WOMAN SUFFRAGE HAS EVER TRIED TO REPEAL IT.

**BECAUSE** over 16,000,000 women in thirty States can now vote for President, thus giving the balance of power to the West and Middle West. Does New Jersey wish an equal voice in the 1920 election? Then the Federal Amendment must be ratified next Winter.

**BECAUSE** Women have full suffrage in these countries outside the United States: Great Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, British South Africa, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Holland, Czecko-Slovakia, Hungary, Poland and GERMANY. Did we fight for democracy only to give it to the women of Europe? Shall New Jersey women be penalized for being Americans?

WORK AND VOTE FOR CANDIDATES WHO FAVOR IMMEDIATE RATIFICATION OF THE FEDERAL SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT AND THE ENFRANCHISEMENT OF THE WOMEN OF NEW JERSEY.