Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Lindsey and Zeke
“It matters not whether the solitary voyager is man or woman; nature, having endowed them equally, leaves them to their own skill and judgment in the hour of danger, and, if not equal to the occasion, alike they perish” (Freedman 124)
Background

- **1815-1902**
- **8th of 11 children**
  - 1 of 5 daughters to survive into adulthood
- **Was an active abolitionist prior to focusing more on feminism and suffrage**
  - Her husband, Henry Brewster Stanton, was a founder of the Republican Party
- **Her feminist views were wider than most at the time, standing for**
  - Suffrage
  - Parental and custody rights
  - Property rights
  - Employment and income rights
  - Divorce
  - Economic family health
  - Birth control
Background

- Controversially opposed the 14th and 15th Amendment
  - Black women would still be denied legal protection and voting rights
  - Believed supporting these would increase the number of people who would deny women the vote
  - Believed that extending suffrage to “ignorant” Black men and immigrants was prioritizing “brutality” over “refinement”
- Husband Henry opposed female suffrage
- Delivered speech on “The Destructive Male” at the Women’s Suffrage Convention in D.C. in 1868
- Founded National Woman Suffrage Association with Anthony on 5-15-1869 in opposition to the 15th Amendment
  - Led as president for 21 years
  - Became countered by the more conservative American Woman Suffrage Association led by Lucy Stone and others
- Opposed the merger of NWSA and AWSA into NAWSA (2-18-1890)
  - Was the first president, but the office was effectively held by Anthony
“Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions”
1848

“The Solitude of Self”
1892
Two works not in The Essential Feminist Reader:

The Woman’s Bible
1895

Eighty Years and More
1898
Compared to Others...

- Susan B. Anthony
- Lucy Stone
- AWSA vs. NWSA
Susan B. Anthony

- Strong friendship with Stanton; they worked together fighting for women’s rights for many years

- Contrasting personalities ironically allowed them to work very well together

- Introverted and solemn but a good counterpart to Stanton’s impulsiveness
Lucy Stone

- New England Woman Suffrage Association
- American Woman Suffrage Association
- Early on: allied with Stanton
- Later: Stone and Stanton became rivals due to conflicting interests
AWSA vs. NWSA

- Lucy Stone, Henry Blackwell, Julia Ward Howe
  - Led by men and women
- Women’s suffrage was primary focus
- Worked mostly at state level
- More passive

- Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony
  - Led by women
- Saw women’s rights as a broad cause:
  - Suffrage
  - Divorce reform
  - Equal pay
  - Refusal of sex
- Worked mostly at national level
- More aggressive
  - Anthony’s arrest and public conviction for voting in 1872 Presidential Election
Questions...
Works Cited


Images:

Sailing Image: https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/originals/05/e6/36/05e636ecc3fcd43e78d34297808fe.jpg


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