

Name: _____

Movie Guide: “Iron Jawed Angels”

Directions: Answer on a separate sheet of paper

Answer prior to viewing the film:

1. Imagine that women were banned from voting today. What would the impact be on life in the United States?
2. Why do you think millions of women and men opposed allowing women to vote?
3. What are your impressions of the struggle for women’s suffrage prior to viewing the film?
4. What is suffrage?

Answer while viewing the film:

5. Where did the struggle for women’s suffrage stand as of 1912, when the film opens?
6. What role did African-American women play in the struggle for universal suffrage?
7. What statement does Ida Wells-Barnett make to Alice Paul? How does Paul respond? What was your reaction to this exchange?
8. Ben Weissman asks Alice Paul, “What will women do with their vote? Reform politics?” What is Paul’s answer? What can one do with one’s vote?
9. How and why did President Woodrow Wilson’s position on votes for women evolve? What happened in the 1916 elections? What finally changed Wilson’s mind? What did he do? According to Wilson, in what ways was suffrage for women a war measure?
10. What was the significance of the fictionalized story of Emily Leighton and her Senator husband?

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11. Who cast the crucial vote for the 19th Amendment? Why do you think this person changed his mind?
12. Would you characterize Alice Paul and Lucy Burns as heroes? As patriots? What contributions did each make to American democracy?
13. It is 1912. Would you fight for women's suffrage or would you lead the opposition to it? Justify your answer.

After viewing the film:

14. What did you learn?
15. How did your impressions of the Women's suffrage movement change?