Madeleine Albright becomes the first woman appointed to serve as Secretary of State

Jeanette Rankin is elected as the first female member of Congress

The Seneca Falls Convention, the first US women’s rights convention held in New York. Signifies the beginning of the Women’s rights movement

Frances Perkins becomes the first female cabinet member, appointed secretary of labor by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Sandra Day O’Connor is sworn in as the first female Supreme Court Justice

Nancy Pelosi becomes the first female Speaker of the US House of Representative

In a break with tradition, Lady Diana Spencer deletes the vow to "obey" her husband as she marries Prince Charles.

Geraldine Ferraro chosen as Walter Mondale’s VP running mate in the presidential election

Pregnancy Discrimination Act passed, women could no longer be fired from their workplace for being pregnant.

The first time that a court recognized sexual harassment in the workplace

Sexual harassment was officially defined by the [Equal Employment Opportunity Commission](http://www.eeoc.gov/).

First woman allowed to run in the Boston Marathon

Roe v. Wade—women’s right to an abortion

women were not able to apply for a credit card alone. Most likely it had to be cosigned by her father or husband

women could now serve on juries in all 50 states

first woman admitted to Harvard

Women allowed to serve on the front lines in combat positions during war

Sally Ride becomes the first female astronaut sent into space

*Reed v. Reed*: sex discrimination unconstitutional in deciding court decisions, a violation of the 14th amendment

*Griswold v. Connecticut*: overturned laws that restricted unmarried persons’ access to contraception

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 was amended to prohibit discrimination based on sex along with race, color, religion and national origin

*Taylor v. Louisiana*: Supreme Court decision declaring the denial of women serving on a jury is unconstitutional

In *Planned Parenthood v. Danforth*, the Supreme Court struck down a requirement for written spousal consent before a woman could obtain an abortion

Women’s Equal Rights Amendment failed to pass ☹

13 states still make some exceptions for marital rape

Planned Parenthood v. Casey—you don’t need permission from your spouse to get an abortion