

Ch 17 Section 2 Women in Public Life

Women in the Work Force

Changing Patterns of Living

- Only middle-, upper-class women can devote selves to home, family
- Poor women usually have to work for wages outside home

Farm Women

- On Southern, Midwestern farms, women's roles same as before
- Perform household tasks, raise livestock, help with crops

Women in Industry

- After 1900, 1 in 5 women hold jobs; 25% in manufacturing
- 50% industrial workers in garment trade; earn half of men's wages
- Jobs in offices, stores, classrooms require high school education
- Business schools train bookkeepers, stenographers, typists

Domestic Workers

- In 1870, 70% of employed women do domestic work
- Many African-American, immigrant women do domestic labor
 - married immigrants take in piecework, boarders

Women Lead Reform

Women Get Involved

- Many female industrial workers seek to reform working conditions
- Women form cultural clubs, sometimes become reform groups

Women in Higher Education

- Many women active in public life have attended new women's colleges
- 50% college-educated women never marry; many work on social reforms

Women and Reform

- Women reformers target workplace, housing, education, food, drugs
- National Association of Colored Women (**NACW**)—child care, education
- **Susan B. Anthony** of National American Woman Suffrage Assoc. (**NAWSA**)
 - works for woman **suffrage**, or right to vote

A Three-Part Strategy for Suffrage

- Convince state legislatures to give women right to vote
- Test 14th Amendment—states lose representation if deny men vote
- Push for constitutional amendment to give women the vote