Joan Jett and the Women’s Liberation Movement

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Women’s Liberation Movement Timeline

- **1963**: Betty Friedan publishes *The Feminine Mystique*, which describes the dissatisfaction felt by middle-class American housewives with the narrow role imposed on them by society.
- **June 10**: Congress passes the Equal Pay Act, making it illegal for employers to pay a woman less than what a man would receive for the same job.
- **1964**: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act bars discrimination in employment on the basis of race and sex. At the same time it establishes the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to investigate complaints and impose penalties.
- **1966**: The National Organization for Women (NOW) is founded by a group of feminists including Betty Friedan.
- **1967**: Executive Order 11375 expands President Lyndon Johnson's affirmative action policy of 1965 to cover discrimination based on gender.
• **1968:** The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) rules that sex-segregated help wanted ads in newspapers are illegal.

• **1971:** Ms. Magazine is first published as a sample insert in New York magazine; 300,000 copies are sold out in 8 days. The first regular issue is published in July 1972.

• **1972:**

  • **March 22:** The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is passed by Congress and sent to the states for ratification. Originally drafted by Alice Paul in 1923, the amendment reads: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

  • **June 23:** Title IX of the Education Amendments bans sex discrimination in schools. It states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."
- **1973**: As a result of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court establishes a woman's right to safe and legal abortion, overriding the anti-abortion laws of many states.

- **1974**: The Equal Credit Opportunity Act prohibits discrimination in consumer credit practices on the basis of sex, race, marital status, religion, national origin, age, or receipt of public assistance.

- In Corning Glass Works v. Brennan, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that employers cannot justify paying women lower wages because that is what they traditionally received under the "going market rate." A wage differential occurring "simply because men would not work at the low rates paid women" is unacceptable.

- **1978**: The Pregnancy Discrimination Act bans employment discrimination against pregnant women. Under the Act, a woman cannot be fired or denied a job or a promotion because she is or may become pregnant, nor can she be forced to take a pregnancy leave if she is willing and able to work.

- **1982**: The Equal Rights Amendment died when it failed to achieve ratification by a minimum of 38 states.
Women’s Liberation Movement
Joan Jett
Challenging Gender Roles
Inequality in the Workplace
Changing Images of Women
Bad Reputation

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