

When I heard this year's theme, "Taking A Stand in History", I knew that I wanted to focus on women's rights. However, this broad topic is composed of multiple movements and battles, so it was difficult to focus my research. I ultimately decided to research Alice Paul and woman's suffrage, because despite her extensive impact and undeniable legacy, she is one of the lesser known women's rights activists. Also, being from New Jersey myself gave me access to many resources within my state, and helped me to learn more about New Jersey history.

I began my research through reading the book A Woman's Crusade: Alice Paul and the Battle for the Ballot, by Mary Walton, which gave me extensive knowledge on Alice Paul's life. I then branched off into different areas I was interested in, such as the parades and marches that Alice Paul organized, and how she picketed the White House. As I continued researching, I conducted two interviews. One was with Mary Walton herself, which was invaluable because it allowed me to ask her specific questions about the most important secondary source I had. The second was with Kris Myers, who is the Director of Programs at the Alice Paul Institute. I also went on two trips while researching. First, the Rutgers' Special Collections Library provided me with many newspaper sources and images, as well a transcript of an interview of Alice from 1974, in which she reflected on her contributions to the suffrage movement. Second, the Alice Paul Institute provided me with a number of letters and legal documents, which were especially useful while researching about the suffragists' relationship with the government.

I chose to make a website this year because of the plethora of newspaper articles and images that I found. Because I had so many visuals, a website would be the best way to showcase them. Also, making a website allowed me to be more artistic and creative than the other categories, as there is a wide variety of ways that information can be presented. I really enjoyed the creative aspect of making a website, especially because I could easily choose colors

and themes that fit with my topic, and I could change these selections as I wished, which gave me a lot of flexibility. This aspect of making a website allowed me to showcase my research in an organized and visually pleasing way.

Alice Paul clearly embodies this year's theme, "Taking a Stand in History". She persistently advocated for women's rights until a suffrage amendment was passed. Her movement united women across the nation, and she did not let any obstacles stand in her way, which allowed her to accomplish what no other suffragist before her could. Paul took these actions despite the backlash she faced, from society and the government alike, and did not stop campaigning until she achieved her goal, making her the epitome of taking a stand in history.