

The **Declaration of Sentiments**, written by **Elizabeth Cady Stanton**, was presented at the Seneca Falls Convention in **1848**. This document *revealed* the inferior legal, social and economic status that women endured in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The document demanded equality for women and proposed that they be given the right to vote!



### **Elizabeth Cady Stanton**

Stanton's list of inequalities includes the following:

1. Women had no legal rights in the eyes of men.
2. Women were not allowed to vote.
3. Married women had no property rights.
4. Husbands had all legal rights over their wives, and could make decisions for them, punish them and even have them imprisoned.
5. Divorce and child custody rights favored men, giving no rights to women.
6. Women had to pay property taxes (if they were not married), but had no right to vote for their representatives.
7. Women were not allowed to enter certain professions such as science, law or medicine.
8. Women had no means to gain an education since almost all colleges and universities would not accept women.
9. With only a few exceptions, women were excluded from affairs of the church.
10. Women were made to feel completely dependent on men, robbing them of their self-confidence and self-worth.

## YOUR THOUGHTS

List three inequalities that you were surprised to read existed for women. What are your thoughts about what it would be like to live under those conditions? What is your reaction to them? \_\_\_\_\_

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Which grievance did you REALLY not like? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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Share your thoughts about Ms. Stanton's #10. \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you agree or disagree that the legal, social and economic inequalities stripped a woman of her self-confidence and self-worth? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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