

BOUND UP TOGETHER:

THE LEGACY OF
BLACK WOMEN
SUFFRAGISTS

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NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT FOR
THE HUMANITIES
(NEH) - FOR THE
PEOPLE BY THE
PEOPLE GRANT
INTERNSHIP

DECEMBER 8, 2022



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TO BE A BLACK WOMAN IN AMERICA

"IF THEY DON'T GIVE YOU A SEAT AT THE TABLE, BRING A FOLDING CHAIR."

-SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

FIRST BLACK WOMAN
ELECTED TO THE UNITED
STATES CONGRESS



FRANCES ELLEN WATKINS HARPER

(1825–1911)

Before Wilson's Presidency



CLUBWOMEN

The Formation of Black Women's Clubs



Mary Church Terrell
(1863-1954)



Phyllis Wheatley Club of Buffalo, 1905

Phyllis Wheatley Club of Buffalo, 1905



Nine African-American women, including Nannie Helen Burroughs, held a banner that said, "Banner State Woman's National Baptist Convention."

IDA B. WELLS-BARNETT

(1862-1931)

During Wilson's Presidency



RACISM IN AMERICA

Black women confront President Wilson on
the country's racism.

Aug. 27 '13
To His Majesty
Hon. President Wilson,
Executive of these
United States of America,
Kind Sir:-
Obeying
a profound impulse which
I feel it my duty to shape
into words, I am writing
you. I hardly know how
or where to begin, but
knowing you are so well
acquainted with the subject
of the 'American Negro', I deem
it unnecessary to enter into
a line of conditions which have

Elizabeth Sykes' Letter

OUR MOTTO
"FOR GOD AND HUMANITY"

**Northeastern Federation
of Women's Clubs**
Organized in Boston, Massachusetts, 1898

Chairman Executive Board, Mrs. Mary E. Jackson, 102 Cranston Street,
Providence, R. I., July 24, 1914

To His Excellency, The President:-

The Northeastern Federation of Women's Clubs, representing more than 2000 Negro women of the Northeast, in convention assembled, in the City of New Bedford, Mass., voted unanimously to make a personal appeal to you in behalf of the 10,000,000 of their Race who have the proud honor of subscribing themselves American Citizens.

The grave evil of disfranchisement, the disastrous effects of segregation and other discrimination, and the unspeakable horror of lynching, of women as well as men, have become such a menace to the Nation, and to its Negro citizens generally, that the Federation feels justified in praying the President of ALL the people to use his good offices to the end that these practices which are as un-American as they are uncivilized and debasing, may be stopped.

As the Federation has authorized a delegation of eight to present to you facts and figures in support of its prayer, we would deem it an honor to be permitted to wait upon you, at your convenience, and present the subject comprehensively. We shall hold ourselves in readiness to visit the White House at any time set by you.

Obediently Yours,
Mary E. Jackson,
Chairman, Executive Board.

Mary E. Jackson's Letter

To: His Excellency Woodrow Wilson
President of the United States.

We, officers of the Federation of Colored Women's Clubs of New Jersey, representing five thousand women of our state, appeal to you as President of a nation, whose citizens are of every race and color, to call a conference in Washington of leading men and women of the white and colored races for the adjustment of race differences which have now become appalling in this land.

You have spent many months in France in an earnest effort for inter-racial harmony. We beg that you will give a like skillful attention to inter-racial harmony here.

Referring to your speech on the U.S.S. George Washington on July 4th, you said, "We can look back upon the history of the years that separate us from the first Fourth of July with great satisfaction, because we have kept the vision in America, we have kept the promise to ourselves that we would maintain a reign of liberty and constitutional government." Also you said, "We have made errors of judgment, we have admitted errors of action; but we have always tried to correct the errors when we have made them."

In view of these statements, your Excellency, we feel sure that after facing these serious problems squarely and finding out how universally destructive they must ultimately

Federation of Colored Women's Clubs of New Jersey's Letter

THE LEGACY OF BLACK WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS

After Wilson's Presidency



Stacey Abrams



LaTosha Brown

RECOMMENDATIONS



Mary Scott
(1882-1968)

ONE FINAL THOUGHT



June Jordan
(1936–2002)

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Text:

Black Women's Suffrage

Too Heavy A Load: Black Women in Defense of Themselves, 1894-1994 By Deborah Gray White

"We Are All Bound Up Together - May 1866" By Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

The Club Movement

Photos:

Black Women Suffragists (Title Image).

Shirley Chisholm

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

Mary Church Terrell

Phyllis Wheatley Club of Buffalo, New York

Nine African-American Women Holding a Banner

Ida B. Wells-Barnett

Elizabeth Sykes Letter

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Federation of Colored Women's Clubs of New Jersey Letter

Stacey Abrams

LaTosha Brown

Mary Scott

Votes For Women (Final Slide Image).

Black Women With Voting Signs (Final Slide Image).

THANK YOU



VOTES FOR WOMEN

A Symposium by Leading Thinkers of Colored America

