Anti-suffragists

The most vocal anti-suffragists were wealthy, educated women who, under the guise of defending "true womanhood," sought to keep the vote from lower-class women, fearing it would result in an increase in the "ignorant vote" and in their own displacement from positions of influence.



A notable anti-suffragist and VP of the NY Association was Mrs. James Roosevelt, the mother of the future president Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Mrs. Roosevelt ironically would become the first mother to vote for her son for President of the United States.



Sara Delano Roosevelt with son, Franklin, 1887.



"The bicycle has done more to emancipate women than anything else in the world"

Susan B. Anthony

Suffragist in Our Backyard - Capital District

Ella Rush Murray - Catskill

Alice Morgan Wright - Albany

Emma Wing-Thompson - Schenectady

Luella D. Smith - Hudson

Leila Stott - Albany

Emma Willard - Troy

Helen M. Leavitt - Albany

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American Association of University Women

HOW WOMEN GOT THE VOTE



How could a wealthy woman like Alva Belmont be a RADICAL Votes for Women advocate?



ALVA VANDERBILT BELMONT 1883-1933 Lived on LI & NYC, socialite and multimillionaire, philanthropist, educated in France, married Wm. Vanderbilt, 3 children, divorced and married OHP Belmont, her divorce controversial because she "had dared to criticize openly an influential man's behavior," drawn to suffrage by Anna Shaw 1908, wrote articles and spoke publicly, founded Political Equality League 1909, helped finance militant activities, supported Alice Paul and Congressional Union, socially prominent NY Suffrage speaker and organizer, National Woman's Party head 1921, donated Sewall-Belmont House in D.C. to National Woman's Party.

Harriot Stanton Blatch



She was known as a feminist activist, suffrage strategist and writer. The daughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, she was a leader in the woman's suffrage movement that was considered as "listless and flagging", or as "a sterile rut of tea and cookies" before the combination of her energy, daring and political savvy spurred the movement on to its goals

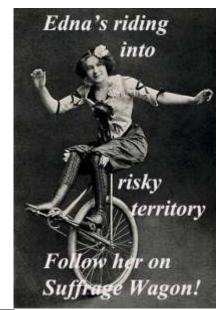
Clara Lemlich



"The manufacturer has a vote, the bosses have votes, the foremen have votes, the inspectors have votes. The working girl has no vote...They do not have to listen...Until the men in the legislature at Albany represent her as well as the bosses and foremen, she will not get justice, she will not get fair conditions. That is why the working woman now says that she must have the vote."

Clara Lemlich

Edna Kearns



Edna Kearns wouldn't let lawyer off the hook . . .

Edna not only put herself out in public, but she documented herself every step of the way. A conversation with an attorney became a newspaper column in fourpart harmony. Poor guy. He admitted that voting might be okay for Edna, but not for his wife. He wouldn't let her vote. And so on. Edna Kearns made the point that politics must be the concern of women.