# The Women's Liberation Movement





## Origins of the Modern Women's Liberation Movement

"The first step in revolution is consciousness." Well, I did the consciousness with The Feminine Mystique. But then there had to be organization and there had to be a movement. And I helped organize NOW, the National Organization for Women and the National Women's Political Caucus and NARAL, the abortion rights [organization] in the next few years.

-- Betty Freidan





#### The Women's Movement in the 1960s





- The *civil rights movement* provided the women's movement with inspiration, strategies, and legal tools. Women who worked for civil rights applied the skills they had gained to the women's movement.
- The 1963 Equal Pay Act & the 1964 Civil Rights Act both helped address some of the legal and economic inequalities women faced. What remained unaddressed were continuing social inequalities.

### Challenges



- In spite of the various civil rights laws, many employers ignored the law. Few women were able to find jobs other than as teachers, nurses, maids, and secretaries. Those who did earned only .59 cents for every dollar similarly qualified men made at the same job.
  - Female clerical workers earned \$220/wk vs. males who made \$328/wk.
  - Female engineers made \$371/wk vs. men who made \$547/wk
  - Female waiters made \$144/wk vs. men who made \$200/wk
- Politicians did little to change the lack of opportunity for women.
- School history books failed to recognize women's vital role in shaping society.
  - In one 1972 textbook, only 5 of the 283 people mentioned were women.
- Language made women feel invisible writers only used masculine pronouns (he, his, etc.) for both genders. Society called women Mrs. or Miss., labeling women according to their marital status (unlike Mr..)

## Learn a Lesson in Sex Appeal

FROM THIS AMAZING SHAMPOO!

Halo Shampoo brightens your hair with seductive luster because it contains no soap or oil to cause dulling film on hair. Leaves even dry hair silkysoft, manageable. And does not irritate the scalp.



MANY a heart has been won by a thrilling head of hair. For when man looks at you, remember his yes start with your head.

Yes, hair can do wonders for a coman provided your shampoo pertits the natural radiance of your air to come forth and add charm a your whole appearance. You see, cap and oil shampoos so often ave as unrinsable cloud of film in your hair to actually dull its atural brilliance. That's why womatural brilliance. That's why womatural brilliance. That's why womatural used to need a lemon or vinegar nae. Why your hair so often looked ull and dead, unmanageable and

How lucky for all women that a cientist made this discovery now a Halo Shampoo—a way to ake rich, creamy shampoo ther without the use of either

pap or oil.

Here at last is an ideal shamno for dry, oily or normal hair, wen in hardest water. One shampoo with Halo demonstrate perfectly how it removes all trace o dull, cloudy film left by many soat and oil shampoos. How radiant and full of luster it leaves your hair eliminating any need for specia extra rinses. How silky-soft and manageable it leaves your hair. How clean and fragrant your scalp, with out irritation. In fact, even loose flaky dandruff is safely removed.

Just think, for only 10¢ you car buy a generous bottle of this thrilli ing new shampoo, at all drug asc ten cent stores. Large sires available at all toilet article counters. Halo it tested and approved by Good House keening. Bureau.



## Keep her where she belongs...



Photo: 1972 shoe advertisement

After N.O.W. protested the sexist ad in 1972, the shoe company claimed it was taking a stand for masculinity and against the women's liberation movement.

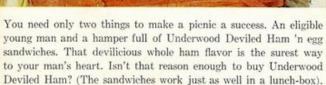




Sears Kenmore Stove
It's designed for you, but built for your husband.

EVEALS THE BEAUTY HIDING IN YOUR HAIR





"TO BUILD A MAN TRAP: FILL PICNIC **BASKET WITH UNDERWOOD** 

**DEVILED HAM** 

SANDWICHES'





windows, plenty of legroom, tuck-away soft top and optional has

got them

look big enough for a bike. Delivers about 40 miles a g Includes almost \$300? worth of accountries at no extra sh And costs only \$1395" — about \$200 less than the lending Fi

SPIDER or 600, a FIAT will keep your f.

(...and saved a garageful of money!)





### Women in the Workplace



## Challenges

A Case Study – The Airlines



## Desirable, but certainly not necessary for qualifying, are.

- higher educational achievements, i.e., college, nursing, teaching, business school or vocational training
- fluency in a foreign language

- participation in activities that reflect maturity, social adjustment and physical health
- public contact job experience

(A candidate's race, religion or national origin is not considered, and has no bearing on her qualifications.)

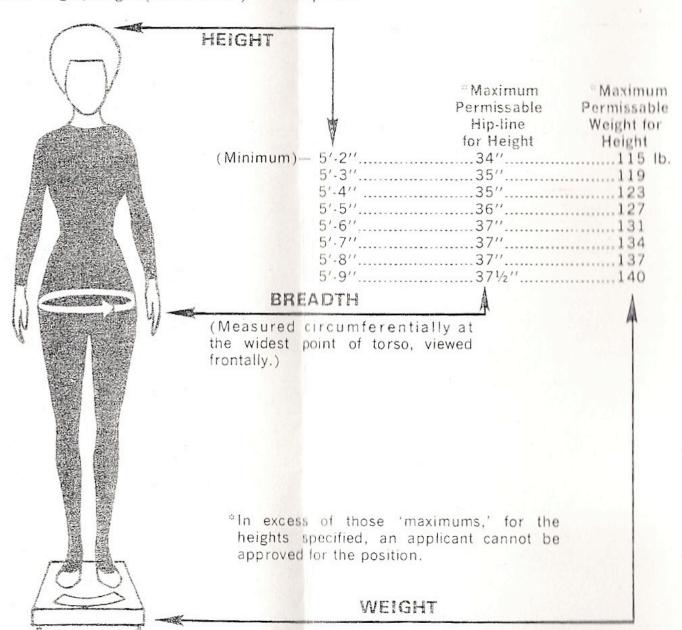
#### It is only a myth that.

- a candidate's hair must be completely at its natural color, or styled in a particular way
- even the most minimal scars, birthmarks or moles—or freckles—are disqualifying

- prior flight experience is necessary
- · ultra sophistication or glamour is sought
- dental bridgework or dentures are not permissable (they cannot be readily discernible)

#### To Be A Flight Hostess—Be Trim!

A physically trim appearance is one of the prime requirements for qualifying. The TWA standard for gauging a candidate's height/weight (and breadth) "stack up" is—





I'm Cheryl. Flyme.



FlyCheryl FlyNational.







In the mid to late 1960s, women began forming consciousness-raising groups dedicated to increasing awareness of women's situation in society.

### National Organization for Women (NOW)



- In 1966, a group of 28 professional women, including Betty Friedan (who became the organization's first president), formed the National Organization for Women (NOW).
- "The purpose of NOW is to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all the privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men."
  - NOW advocated women's issues such as fair pay, equal job opportunities, a
    more realistic portrayal of women in the media, and a more even balance of
    responsibilities in marriage.
  - Lobbied government, filed lawsuits, staged rallies and marches

### Women's Strike for Equality

- Organized by NOW
- <u>Goal</u>: the ERA was being discussed in Congress, and the protesting women warned politicians to pay attention or risk losing their seats in the next election.
- Called for women to stop working for a day to draw attention to the problem of unequal pay for women's work.
  - The protest used "Don't Iron While the Strike is Hot!"
  - Tens of thousands of demonstrators gathered at a march on August 26, 1970 in New York City to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage.
  - Women went on "strike" in cities across the United States.
  - It was described by *Time* magazine as "the first big demonstration of the Women's Liberation Movement."

### Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

• Promised equal treatment for men and women in all spheres, not just employment.



- In 1972, Congress approved passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the Constitution. This amendment would make discrimination based on a person's sex illegal.
  - Although the ERA was at first highly supported, it failed to gain ratification by the necessary number of states and was, therefore, not added to the Constitution.



VIOTRONICS INC.

SEXCETERA...THE NEWS
ACCORDING TO PLAYBOY
SHOW# 21
(1420-721)
EDITED MASTER
SHOW# 21 1st AIR DATE: 10/21/84
PLAYBOY PROGRAMS, INC.
10/1/84
VIDTRONICS, INC.

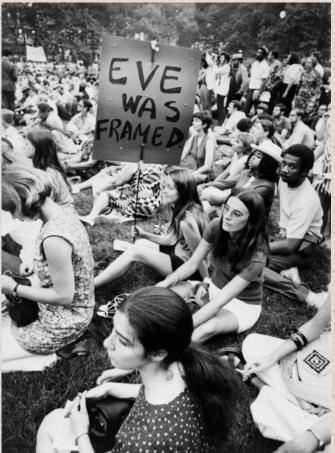
#### Strike for Equality - Nationwide Demonstrations

• The Women's Strike for Equality took place in more than 90 cities across the U.S.

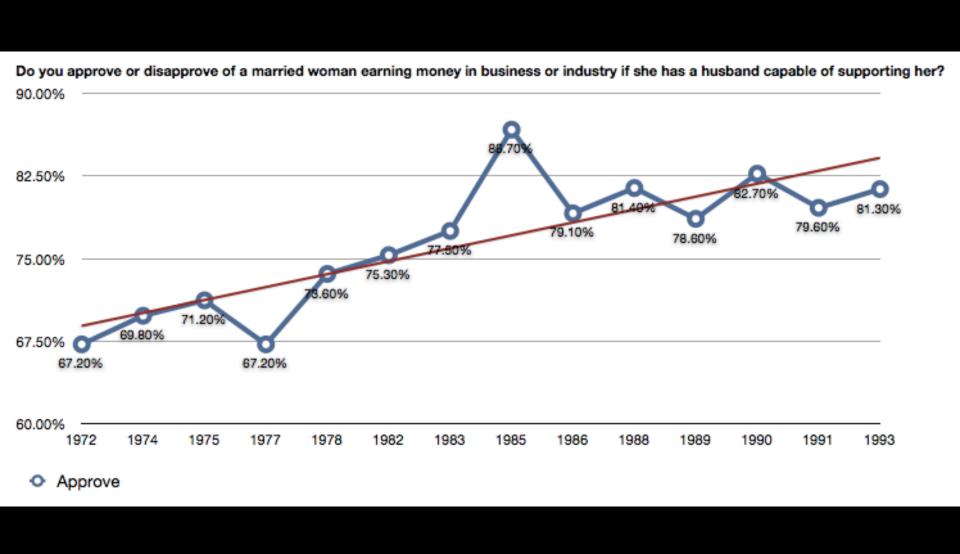
#### • Here are a few examples:

- New York had the largest protest. Tens of thousands marched down Fifth Avenue; others demonstrated at the Statue of Liberty and stopped the stock ticker on Wall Street.
- In Washington D.C., women marched with a banner that read "We Demand Equality" and lobbied for the Equal Rights Amendment.
- Detroit women who worked at the Detroit Free Press kicked men out of one of their restrooms, protesting the fact that men had two bathrooms while women had one.
- Women who worked for a New Orleans newspaper ran pictures of the grooms instead of the brides in engagement announcements.
- International solidarity: French women marched in Paris, and Dutch women marched at the U.S. embassy in Amsterdam.





- Some people called the demonstrators anti-feminine or even Communist.
- The Women's Strike made the front page of national newspapers such as *The New York Times*. It was also covered by ABC, CBS, and NBC, which was the pinnacle of extensive television news coverage in 1970.
- The next year, Congress passed a resolution declaring August 26 Women's Equality Day.





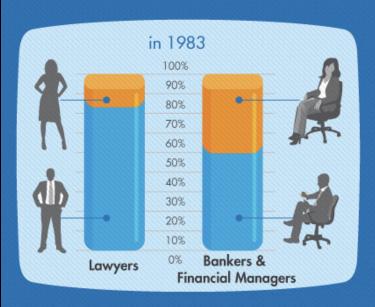
Her salary was 62% of a man's for the same job (1982).

Men's Median Wage: \$36,224

🗣 Women's Median Wage: 🛙 \$22,367

Her Annual Loss: \$13,857

At the end of her 40-year career: \$554,280 loss







www.womenonbusiness.com
@womenonbusiness

### Roe v. Wade (1973)

- On March 3, 1970, attorneys Linda Coffee and Sarah Weddington challenged the ban on abortion in court. They represented a 23-year-old pregnant ticket seller named Norma McCorvey, who had been raped and wanted to end her pregnancy. McCorvey lived in TX, where state law prohibited abortion. To protect her privacy, McCorvey used the name Jane Roe in court.
  - For two years the case worked its way through the courts.
  - On Jan. 22, 1973, the Supreme Court established a woman's right to an abortion based on her constitutional right to privacy. The decision also identified the fetus as a "potential life," not a person. As such, the Court said it had no rights of its own.
  - The decision limited abortion rights to the first 2/3 of a pregnancy when the fetus cannot live outside the womb. The decision discouraged abortion in the last 1/3 of pregnancy, but said abortion must remain available throughout pregnancy to preserve a woman's health or to save her life.
- Roe v. Wade struck down anti-abortion bans in 30 states.

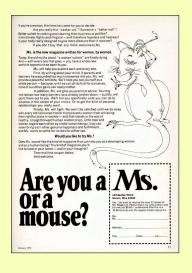


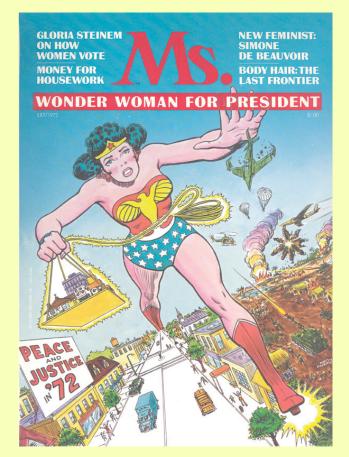
The states are not free, under the guise of protecting maternal health or potential life, to intimidate women into continuing pregnancies.

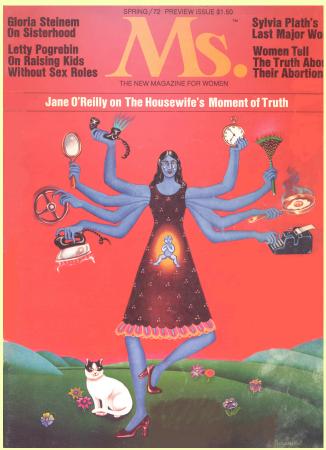
~Justice Harry A. Blackmun

I have always believed that God's greatest gift is human life and that we have a duty to protect the life of an unborn child." ~ Ronald Reagan, 1983

## Ms. Magazine (1972)



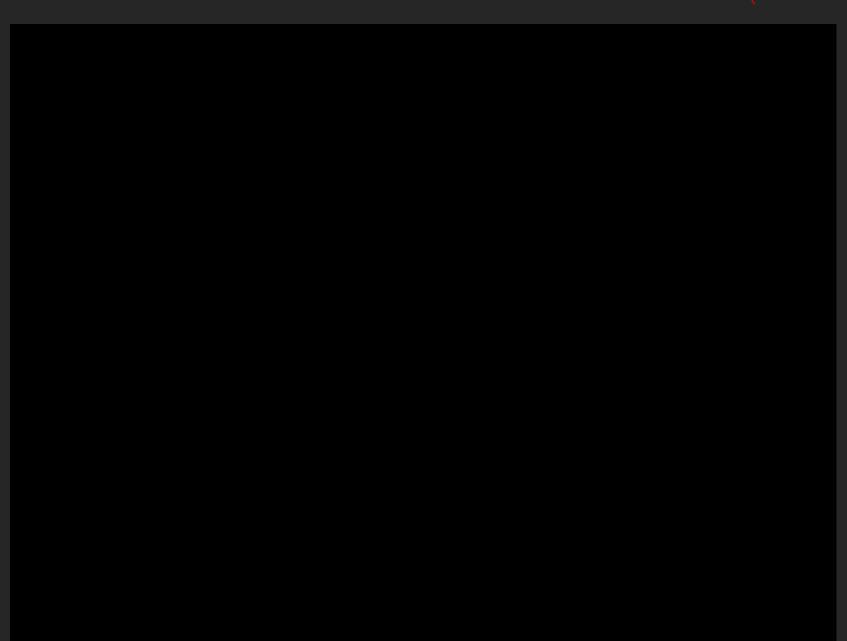




- More and more women began identifying themselves as feminists.
- Ms. magazine, first published in 1972 by Gloria Steinem, became enormously popular.
  - Launched in 1972, Ms. became a famous part of the feminist movement. It was a publication edited by women that spoke to women's issues (gender bias in language, sexual harassment, feminist protest of pornography, and political candidates' stances on women's issues.)

#### Women on Television

Charlie's Angels (1976-1981)





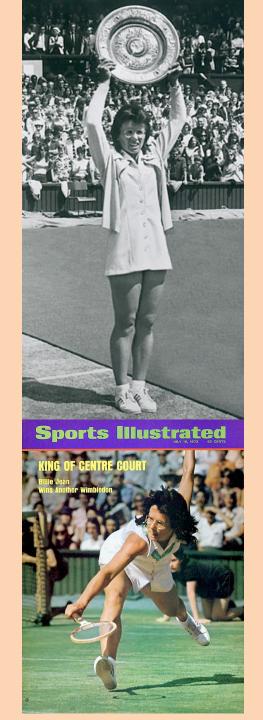
Wonder
Woman
(1975-1979)

## Murphy Brown (1988-1998)



#### Battle of the Sexes

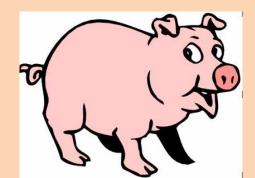
- Early 1970s was golden age for tennis. Women still received lower pay than men, and sexism rampant.
- Billie Jean King
  - 1967 Woman Athlete of the Year.
  - In 1971, she won second U.S. Open, earned highest annual fees of any female tennis player.
  - In 1972, she won the U.S. Open,
     French Open, and Wimbledon.
  - Sports Illustrated Sportsperson of the Year in 1972.



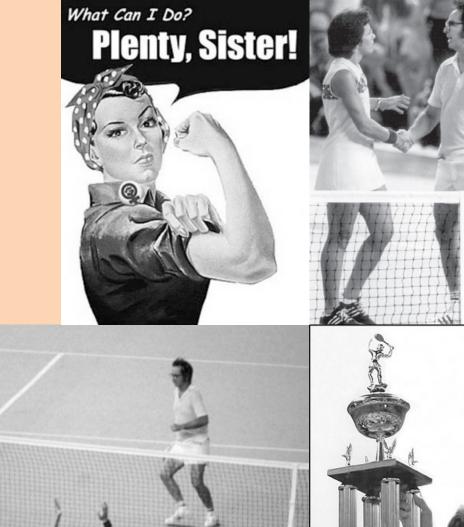
- 1973, former tennis champ Bobby Riggs challenged King to a tennis match that the media called the "Battle of the Sexes."
  - Fortune Magazine called Riggs a "55-year-old tennis hustler who wore his chauvinism on his sleeve."
  - Riggs believed he could beat the reigning female champ simply because he was male.
    Male athletes were superior, he claimed, "even those of



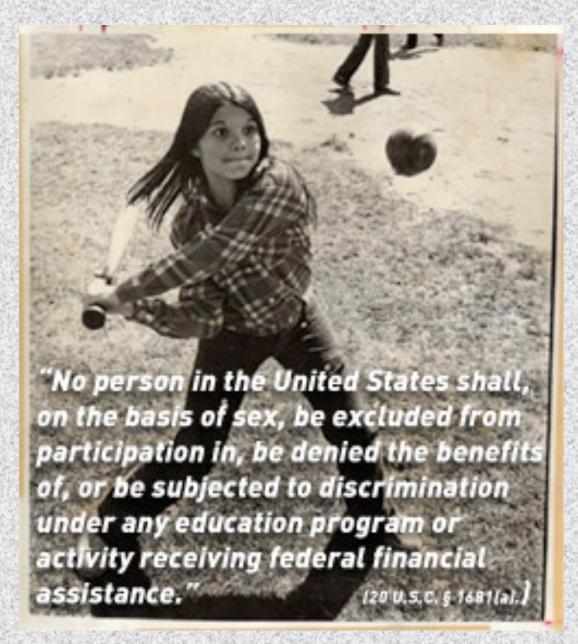
- Arranged to compete in a winner-take-all purse of \$100,000.
- Media circus leading up to the match
  - Before the first game at the Houston Astrodome in TX on Sept. 20, 1973, King gave Riggs a live pig to symbolize her view that Riggs was a male chauvinist pig.



- King crushed Riggs in 3 straight sets.
- King was thrilled with the win and the statement that it made on behalf of women athletes.
  - "This is the culmination of 19 years of work. Since the time [professional tennis] wouldn't let me in a picture because I didn't have on a tennis skirt, I've wanted to change the game around. Now it's here."
- "I thought it would set us back 50 years if I didn't win," said King.
- After the match, King helped est. the Women's Tennis Association and Women's Sports Foundation.



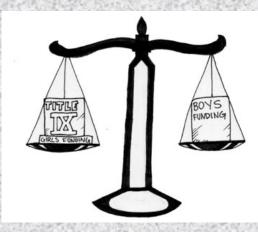
#### Title IX



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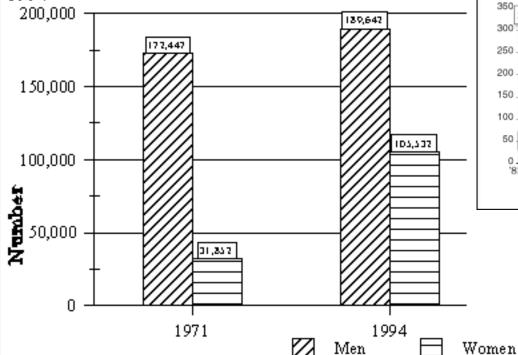
- In the years before Title IX was passed, females were drastically underrepresented in athletics, and funding for females in sports was inadequate compared to that of males.
- Part of the Education Amendment of 1972, Title IX forced all federally funded institutions, namely high schools, universities and colleges, to have equal funding spent on males and females both in the classroom and on the playing field.
- Title IX was passed in the hopes that it would end sex discrimination, especially in athletic programs, and also increase the amount of opportunities and participation for females in athletics.





In 1971-72, the first year of first year of Title IX, 294,015 girls participated in high school sports nation-wide, just 7% of the total. By 2003-04, girls' participation was up to 2,865,299, or 41.5% of the total.

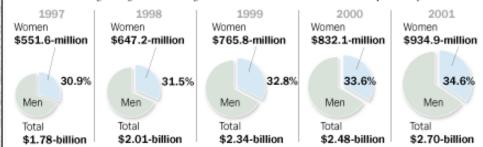
Figure 7.—Intercollegiate Athletics Participation in NCAA Member Institutions, by Sex: 1971 and 1994



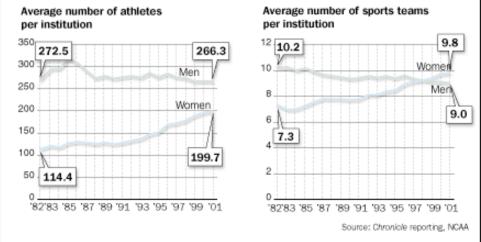
SOURCE: U.S. General Accounting Office, Intercollegiate
Athletics: Status of Efforts to Promote Gender Equity, October
25,1996; Federal Register, December 11, 1979.

#### Female Athletes' Growing Presence on Campuses

Women's share of growing athletics budgets in Division I has increased over the past few years . . .

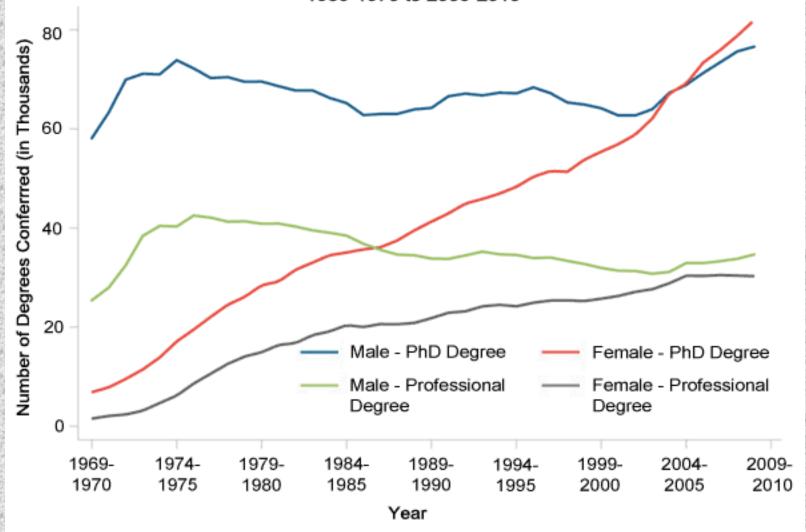


... the average number of female athletes has increased significantly, as the number of male athletes has leveled off ... ... and the average number of women's sports teams now surpasses that of men's.



Even today, not all federally funded institutions comply with Title IX; however, the increase of opportunities and participation for females in athletics is astounding.

#### Number of Doctoral and Professional Degrees Conferred by Gender, 1969-1970 to 2009-2010



Source: Authors' compilation based on Snyder and Dillow (2012).



