



# Celebrating Women's Suffrage Presented by: The League of Women Voters

**Women For Orange County**

**Wednesday, February 26, 2020**

**11:00—Refreshments**

**11:30—Meeting Begins (starts promptly)**

This talk will be presented by Steph Campbell, both of the Orange Coast League of Women Voters and Women For: Orange County. We will share our celebration of Women's Suffrage which was achieved through the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution which was ratified on August 18<sup>th</sup> and officially became law on August 26, 1920. As we approach the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary it is important to remember the history and conflicts, the role that white supremacy played in the fight, and the ultimate victory in Tennessee.

The presentation covers the suffrage movement across time beginning in 1840 – 80 years before passage of the amendment. It took until 1868 for the amendment to be introduced in Congress which was followed by the formation of anti-suffrage groups some of which included women.

There are successes along the way! Jeannette Rankin of Montana is the first woman elected to the House of Representatives – that was in 1916 before many women around the country could vote. And Utah gave women the vote in 1870!

As great a victory as it was, it was still an unequal amendment giving the franchise to primarily white middle and upper class women. And the fight to get it passed relied on racial exclusion to get Southern states to ratify the amendment.



**Free and open to the public. Men are cordially invited.**

**Women For: Orange County** is a volunteer, non-partisan organization dedicated to advancing Human & Civil Rights, Peace, Social Justice, Education, Health Care and the Environment.

Irvine Ranch Water District neither supports nor endorses the cause nor activities of organizations which use the District's meeting rooms that are made available as a public service

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