

Why the Majority of Women Oppose Woman's Suffrage

In our campaign before the voters of the State, we rest our cause on these fundamental truths:

FIRST—The majority of women do not wish to vote.

According to the public statement of the Ohio Suffrage Association its membership is 32,000 or less than 3 per cent of the women of the State over 21 years of age.

It is unwise, unfair and unjust to force upon a majority of women, a measure which is obnoxious to all their ideals of womanhood, in order that the wishes of a small minority may prevail.

SECOND—We find no evidence in the states where women vote that they have contributed anything to the general welfare which has not been duplicated in other states where female franchise does not exist.*

All necessary and permanent moral and social reform must be rooted in the home life of the people. It is in the retirement of this quiet home life and not in the publicity of a noisy political campaign that true womanhood seeks an opportunity to serve the State.

THIRD—The payment of taxes and the right to vote have no connection whatever.

A man may own property in half a dozen places in the State, and in other states, but he can vote in only one—the place of his residence. Minors are fully taxed on their property and so are aliens, but neither class can vote.

FOURTH—Women lack the physical ability to exercise the franchise on the same terms as men.

Women are now exempt from jury service and liabilities to police service, including a call to arms in defense of the country.

This exemption far more than compensates any gain which even the most ardent suffragists claim would result from conferring the right of suffrage upon women.

FIFTH—It is a mistake to presume that all women will vote right on moral issues. Experience proves that many of the worst ills of social life are due to the influence of women of low ideals of right and wrong, or of degraded morals. Women of this type would be a most dangerous element in political life and would lend themselves to the support of immoral issues, backed by designing demagogues in a manner which could not be counteracted by women of reputation and character.

To the ever increasing courtesy of men as shown in the social relation of life as well as to their constant protection in business affairs, women owe a debt of gratitude. In view of this courtesy and protection, the demand for so-called "Woman's Rights" is both unbecoming and ungenerous.

Issued by

THE OHIO ASS'N OPPOSED TO WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE

NOTE: See what women have actually done where they vote. A personal investigation into the laws, records, and results of the four equal suffrage states: Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming by Richard Barry. Issued by the New York State Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage, 29 West 39th Street New York City.

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