# Suffrage

• Definition: The right to vote.

# Voting in the U.S.

- First voters:
  - White, male, land owners.
  - States decided who could vote.

### Voting in the U.S.

- African-American men: Granted citizenship and gained the right to vote when slavery was abolished after the Civil War.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment, 1870.

### Voting in WA

• WA Territory: Women gain the right to vote in the territory in 1883.

# Voting in WA.

- State Constitution, 1889:
  - Women's suffrage vigorously debated when creating a new state constitution.
  - Argument failed. Women lost the right to vote in the new state.

### Voting in WA.

#### • 1910:

Women's suffrage succeeds in the state legislature. Women regain the right to vote.

• WA became the 5<sup>th</sup> state to allow women the right to vote.



# Voting in U.S.

• 1920:

- 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment ratified.
- Women gain the right to vote in the whole country.

### Women's Suffrage & Prohibition

- Prohibition:
  - Ban on sale and drinking alcohol.

### Women's Suffrage & Prohibition

- Excess drinking was widespread among men in the late 1800s.
- Women's movement wanted to see drinking reduced or stopped.



# Women's Suffrage & Prohibition

- Many men did not want women to vote because they feared women would vote for prohibition.
- Prohibition passed about the same time as women's suffrage.