

# A LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRIMARY SOURCE STARTER THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID

Quick and Easy activity ideas to start using Library of Congress primary sources in the classroom

## Teacher Instructions

### Goal

Students will examine a photo taken outside of the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage (NAOWS) building and will begin to think critically about how attitudes towards women's suffrage and other issues of that time period impacted daily life.

### Background

Women's suffrage was an important advancement in United States history. This photo is believed to be taken in 1911. During this period, suffragettes were organizing a movement to pass national legislation allowing women to vote in every state. (At this time only a few states allowed women to vote.) The National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage (NAOWS) organization formed in New York City in 1911 during a convention of state anti-suffrage groups. The NAOWS believed that women's suffrage would decrease their work in communities and their ability to effect societal reforms.

### Activities

Teachers can have students:

- Examine the photo and give their initial reactions
- Write and discuss what they know about the women's suffrage movement
- Write and discuss any information that they know about the time period when this photograph was taken
- Have them develop idea about what the people in the photo are saying or thinking and write a caption for the photograph

You can also use [primary source teacher guides and analysis tools](#) from the Library of Congress to help students to complete an in depth analysis of the photograph.

### Primary Source

National Anti-Suffrage Association

Men looking in the window of the National Anti-Suffrage Association headquarters (1911?)

[http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/quer?r?ammem/suffrg:@field\(NUMBER+@band\(cph+3a26270\)\)](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/quer?r?ammem/suffrg:@field(NUMBER+@band(cph+3a26270)))



WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY



TEACHING *with* PRIMARY SOURCES



## Student Worksheet

**Background:** This photo is believed to be taken in 1911. During this period, women suffragettes were organizing a movement to pass National legislation allowing women to vote in every state (At this time only a few states allowed women to vote). National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage (NAOWS) organization formed in New York City in 1911 during a convention of state anti-suffrage groups. The NAOWS believed that woman suffrage would decrease women's work in communities and their ability to effect societal reforms.

**Directions:** Closely examine the photo and read the background information.

1. List everything you already know about the Women's Suffrage Movement.
2. Write down what you know about life in America in 1911? (i.e. What was happening in the world? What was the latest fashion? Who was president?)
3. On the next sheet, fill in the speech bubbles to show what the men may be saying to each other and what the woman may be thinking.
4. Write your own caption of the image to sum up what is happening. Remember, a caption should be short and to the point.



