

# World War II

*The Compromises that Gained Rights  
for Women Working on the Homefront*

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Historical paper

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Women working on the homefront during World War II is historically known as one of the biggest changes that brought forth equal rights for female workers. These workers brought positive changes for the society that they lived in by working in factories to prevent the losing of World War II. The U.S government persuaded these women to enter the war once the factories were in dire need of help, ultimately symbolizing with Rosie the Riveter, brought up by music corporation worker Redd Evans. This spark soon recruited recruited over 7 million women to join the war effort. Although women were harassed during the war, for women were thought to stay home and provide for the family, they liked working. Women described their experience in the workforce by saying that they were “finally standing on their own two feet,” and these hard working women later influenced the war for the better in many ways. Conflict soon erupted when the men returned home from the war and took back their jobs and women were eventually sent home, apparently no longer needed. However, Over the next few years they continued to strive for equal rights, ultimately leading to the Equal Rights Amendment which brought gender equality into the mainstream of society. Although females are still fighting for women’s rights today, this amendment created more rights for women in the economical status than ever before.

## **History of World War II**

The devastation of the Great War had greatly destabilized Europe, and in many aspects, unresolved conflicts from World War I resulted in World War II.<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler and

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<sup>1</sup> Winter, Jay. “How the Great War Shaped the World.” *The Atlantic*, Atlantic Media Company, 29 Sept. 2014, [www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/08/how-the-great-war-shaped-the-world/373468/](http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/08/how-the-great-war-shaped-the-world/373468/).

his National Socialist re-armed the stricken nation of Germany and signed strategic treaties with Italy and Japan, increasing his ambitions of world domination.<sup>2</sup> Hitler's invasion of Poland in September 1939 led Great Britain and France to declare war on Germany and hence, World War II had begun. As for the United States, Congress approved President Roosevelt's declaration of war on Japan on December 8th 1941, in response to Japan's assault that bombed the American fleet in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, the day before.<sup>3</sup> Three days later, Japan, Germany, and Italy declared war against the United States.<sup>4</sup> After these declarations of war, President Franklin Roosevelt worked hard to prepare Americans for a conflict that he regarded as inevitable.<sup>5</sup>

### **New Roles for Women**

Working was not new to women. Women have always worked, especially lower-class women. However, the cultural division of labor by sex ideally placed middle-class women at home and men in the workforce.<sup>6</sup> Most people were against women working because ever since the Great Depression women were thought to be taking jobs from men.<sup>7</sup> The start of World War II tested these ideas. Everyone agreed that workers were greatly needed. They also agreed that having women work in the war industries would only be temporary. Shortly after the Japanese bombing on Pearl

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<sup>2</sup> History.com Staff. "World War II History." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2009, [www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/world-war-ii-history](http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/world-war-ii-history).

<sup>3</sup> "World War II." *HistoryNet*, [www.historynet.com/world-war-ii](http://www.historynet.com/world-war-ii).

<sup>4</sup> "German Foreign Policy, 1933–1945." *United States Holocaust Memorial Museum*, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, [www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005203](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005203).

<sup>5</sup> "Pearl Harbor (Article) | World War II." *Khan Academy*, [www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/period-7/apush-us-wwii/a/pearl-harbor](http://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/period-7/apush-us-wwii/a/pearl-harbor).

<sup>6</sup> J.D. *The Pop History Dig*, [www.pophistorydig.com/topics/rosie-the-riveter-1941-1945/](http://www.pophistorydig.com/topics/rosie-the-riveter-1941-1945/).

<sup>7</sup> 02.03.09: *How War Changed the Role of Women in the United States*, [teachersinstitute.yale.edu/curriculum/units/2002/3/02.03.09.x.html](http://teachersinstitute.yale.edu/curriculum/units/2002/3/02.03.09.x.html).

Harbor in December 1941 and the full involvement of the U.S. in World War II, labor shortages increased, which came precisely at a time when America's need for factory output soared.<sup>8</sup> With the help of advertising companies such as J. Walter Thompson, the U.S. government mounted extensive campaigns to encourage women to join the workforce. Magazines and posters played a crucial role in the effort to recruit women for the workforce. Each citizen was asked by their government to contribute, whether it was by fighting in the war or helping in industrial industries.<sup>9</sup> Posters and films extolled the aspects of woman working and suggested females should not be ignored. Whether filling their duty in uniform or at home, women were portrayed as confident and proposed to do their part to win the war.<sup>10</sup> Conflict arose when many women were distressed about leaving to go manage machines and work in factories, and were reluctant to leave home.<sup>11</sup> Many women believed factories and machines were meant for men and all women should tend to home. U.S governments were as persistent than ever and made films and documentaries and posters and they all complimented young women and expressed how it was their patriotic duty to serve the country.<sup>12</sup> A song titled "Rosie the Riveter" written by Redd Evans and John Jacob Loeb was issued by

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<sup>8</sup> *Rosie the Riveter Transcript (Journeys and Crossings, Library of Congress Digital Reference Section)*, [www.loc.gov/rr/program/journey/rosie-transcript.html](http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/journey/rosie-transcript.html).

<sup>9</sup> "Take A Closer Look: America Goes to War." *The National WWII Museum | New Orleans*, [www.nationalww2museum.org/students-teachers/student-resources/research-starters/america-goes-war-take-closer-look](http://www.nationalww2museum.org/students-teachers/student-resources/research-starters/america-goes-war-take-closer-look).

<sup>10</sup> *National Archives and Records Administration*, National Archives and Records Administration, [www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers\\_of\\_persuasion/its\\_a\\_womans\\_war\\_too/its\\_a\\_womans\\_war\\_too.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers_of_persuasion/its_a_womans_war_too/its_a_womans_war_too.html).

<sup>11</sup> *02.03.09: How War Changed the Role of Women in the United States*, [teachersinstitute.yale.edu/curriculum/units/2002/3/02.03.09.x.html](http://teachersinstitute.yale.edu/curriculum/units/2002/3/02.03.09.x.html).

<sup>12</sup> "United States Home Front during World War II." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 13 Dec. 2017, [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_home\\_front\\_during\\_World\\_War\\_II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_home_front_during_World_War_II).

Paramount Music Corporation of New York in 1941. The song was released in early 1943 and was broadcast nationally by radio. Rosie the Riveter was portrayed as a young woman doing her part to help the war effort.<sup>13</sup> She inspired a social movement influencing over 4 million women to participate. This eventually became the biggest iconic image recruiting women since America entered World War II.<sup>14</sup>

### **Rosie the Riveter**

Rosie the Riveter was designed as a strong woman dressed in overalls and a red bandana. Rosie was introduced as a symbol of patriotic womanhood.<sup>15</sup> Based in small part on a real-life munitions worker, but primarily a fictitious character, the strong, bandanna-clad Rosie became one of the most vital and successful recruitment tools in American history, and the most iconic image of working women during World War II.<sup>16</sup> Rosie showed a cultural icon of World War II even after the war ended. She represents the women who worked in factories and shipyards during World War II, many of whom produced munitions and war supplies tirelessly. Rosie the Riveter is used as a symbol of feminism and women's economic power.<sup>17</sup> Many women responded to Rosie because of the opportunities women could have to serve their country, and when they looked at the

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<sup>13</sup> Hawkes, Sarah, et al. "Who Was Rosie the Riveter?" *US History Scene*, [ushistoryscene.com/article/rosie-the-riveter/](http://ushistoryscene.com/article/rosie-the-riveter/).

<sup>14</sup> "We Can Do It! Images of Rosie Meant to Inspire Social and Political Movements." *Rosie the Riveter Archive*,

<sup>15</sup> *National Archives and Records Administration*, National Archives and Records Administration, [www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers\\_of\\_persuasion/its\\_a\\_womans\\_war\\_too/its\\_a\\_womans\\_war\\_too.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers_of_persuasion/its_a_womans_war_too/its_a_womans_war_too.html).

<sup>16</sup> History.com Staff. "American Women in World War II." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2010, [www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/american-women-in-world-war-ii](http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/american-women-in-world-war-ii).

<sup>17</sup> "Rosie the Riveter." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 21 Dec. 2017, [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosie\\_the\\_Riveter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosie_the_Riveter).

picture of Rosie, they could see a young woman with a look of pride and determination on her face.

### **Reluctant Workers**

Although Rosie the Riveter had a huge impact on women to join the workforce, some 8 million women were still skeptical. Many were nervous to leave their homes although they knew that the country needed them, for the propaganda said they were doing their patriotic duty by working in the factories.<sup>18</sup> The government also had a hard time recruiting women to become nurses because many women wanted to stay closer to home and their families. Working in factories was easier and required no training. Women also faced challenges in overcoming public discrimination against working women, as well as finding adequate child care during working hours.<sup>19</sup> Many women enlisted to go away to work, but they were treated harshly by public opinions.<sup>20</sup> One propaganda piece that came shortly after the song “Rosie the Riveter,” showed an opulent woman with her nose up at a working woman in overalls.<sup>21</sup> This image represented how women were meant to stay home and tend the families rather than going off and working in grubby overalls.<sup>22</sup> Although, the shift that recruited young women to finally contribute was Eleanor Roosevelt. She believed that keeping up

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<sup>18</sup> “WW2 Women Soldiers.” *Pinterest*, 28 Mar. 2015, [www.pinterest.com/pin/294915475574871220/](http://www.pinterest.com/pin/294915475574871220/).

<sup>19</sup> Wallace, Lane. “The Complex Legacy of Rosie the Riveter.” *The Atlantic*, Atlantic Media Company, 11 Jan. 2011, [www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2011/01/the-complex-legacy-of-rosie-the-riveter/69268/](http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2011/01/the-complex-legacy-of-rosie-the-riveter/69268/).

<sup>20</sup> “Complicating Rosie the Riveter.” *OUPblog*, 30 Dec. 2015, [blog.oup.com/2015/12/history-rosie-riveter/](http://blog.oup.com/2015/12/history-rosie-riveter/).

<sup>21</sup> “<3.” *Pinterest*, 1 May 2017, [www.pinterest.com.au/pin/483574078729877246/](http://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/483574078729877246/).

<sup>22</sup> *Question: What Did Eleanor Roosevelt Do during World War II?*, [www2.gwu.edu/~erpapers/teaching\\_er/q-and-a/q21.cfm](http://www2.gwu.edu/~erpapers/teaching_er/q-and-a/q21.cfm).

peoples' spirits was an important part of the war.<sup>23</sup> She raised women's courage to enter the war effort and urged them to take employment in defense industries. Eleanor Roosevelt influenced day care centers and spoke strongly in favor of equal pay. Eleanor quickly became a approbation to women throughout the U.S.<sup>24</sup>

### **The Impact of Women's Work**

Once women were induced to enter World War II by their U.S government, they worked harder than they have ever done so in their entire lives. By 1943 over 7 million women were working in defense industries with 350,000 working in the Armed Forces.<sup>25</sup> Once at work, they discovered the nonmaterial benefits of working like learning new skills, contributing to the welfare of the public, and proving themselves in jobs once thought of as only men's work.<sup>26</sup> Millions of women left their domestic jobs and left to work in war industries and eventually 18 million women were in the workforce by the end of World War II.<sup>27</sup> These female workers worked tirelessly and were industrious, hoping to win the war. Women in uniform took office and clerical jobs in the armed forces in order to free men to fight. They also drove trucks, repaired airplanes, worked as laboratory technicians, rigged parachutes, served as radio operators, flew military aircraft across the country, test-flew newly repaired planes and some women even

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<sup>23</sup> History.com Staff. "Eleanor Roosevelt." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2009, [www.history.com/topics/first-ladies/eleanor-roosevelt](http://www.history.com/topics/first-ladies/eleanor-roosevelt).

<sup>24</sup> "Eleanor Roosevelt." *Biography.com*, A&E Networks Television, 6 Oct. 2017, [www.biography.com/people/eleanor-roosevelt-9463366](http://www.biography.com/people/eleanor-roosevelt-9463366).

<sup>25</sup> "Striking Women." *World War II: 1939-1945 | Striking Women*, [www.striking-women.org/module/women-and-work/world-war-ii-1939-1945](http://www.striking-women.org/module/women-and-work/world-war-ii-1939-1945).

<sup>26</sup> "7.5 Rosie the Riveter." *Rosie the Riveter - North Carolina Digital History*, [www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-worldwar/5852](http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-worldwar/5852).

<sup>27</sup> *02.03.09: How War Changed the Role of Women in the United States*, [teachersinstitute.yale.edu/curriculum/units/2002/3/02.03.09.x.html](http://teachersinstitute.yale.edu/curriculum/units/2002/3/02.03.09.x.html).

served near the front lines in the Army Nurse Corps, where 16 were killed as a result of direct enemy fire.<sup>28</sup> Throughout the experience of women working, U.S governments and the aviation industry noticed that despite the increase in working hours, the amount of ammunition produced each day by women was more than men by the end of World War II.<sup>29</sup> Although Women were working harder than ever they still encountered different levels of discrimination and 50% less pay than men received.<sup>30</sup>

### **Should Women be Working?**

Although Women worked diligently and were hard working while receiving minimal pay, they were thought to be taking men's jobs. Soon, different employment agencies were beginning to worry how men were supposed to get their jobs back once they returned home.<sup>31</sup> Many women who tended the children and stayed at home, looked upon working women with displeasure, because many believed that a woman's duty was to work for the family and not being stationed in the war working with heavy machinery.<sup>32</sup> One account of a male berating a woman was when a woman named Josephine Miklos, was working in a tool grinding room. As she was setting up her machine a male coworker said "Your a pretty good mechanic, for a woman." Josephine whipped her head around and asked "Why for a woman?" She shortly soon realized she

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<sup>28</sup> "History At a Glance: Women in World War II." *The National WWII Museum* | New Orleans, [www.nationalww2museum.org/students-teachers/student-resources/research-starters/women-wwii](http://www.nationalww2museum.org/students-teachers/student-resources/research-starters/women-wwii).

<sup>29</sup> "Women in World War II." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 10 Dec. 2017, [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women\\_in\\_World\\_War\\_II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_World_War_II).

<sup>30</sup> History.com Staff. "Rosie the Riveter." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2010, [www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/rosie-the-riveter](http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/rosie-the-riveter).

<sup>31</sup> Lukas, Catherine, and Rich Torrey. *Rosie the Riveter*. Little Simon, 2000.

<sup>32</sup> Evans, Redd. *Rosie the Riveter*. Paramount Music Corp., 1942.

wished she didn't even respond because the male soon shot back the answer she had heard a dozen times "it aint a woman's work."<sup>33</sup>

### **Women Returning Home**

At last, after four long and brutal years, the war officially ended on September 2nd, 1945 after the U.S dropped the atomic bombs on Nagasaki and Hiroshima on August 9, 1945.<sup>34</sup>At the end of this war, the males returned home, to be employed again working at the factories that women had been recruited in for nearly four years. After the men returned, women were fired. Some women did not mind losing their jobs.

According to Helen Studer, who had worked as a riveter, "I was glad it was over. I wasn't working cause I wanted to. I was working because I thought it was necessary. My husband never wanted me to work anyways."<sup>35</sup> However, Otilie Gattuso, who had worked as a Grumman Aircraft Engineering corporation during the war, wrote a letter to President Truman after she had been laid off. "I happen to be a widow with a mother and son to support, I would like to know why, after serving a company in good faith for three and a half years, and me being a classified skilled laborer, why I happen not to be wanted because I am a women."<sup>36</sup> After World War II, 75% of the women reported that they wanted to keep working, while also hoping to receive equal pay as men.<sup>37</sup>

### **Effect on the Female Workers**

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<sup>33</sup> Evans, Redd. *Rosie the Riveter*. Paramount Music Corp., 1942.

<sup>34</sup> Network, The Learning. "Aug. 9, 1945 | U.S. Drops Atomic Bomb on Nagasaki, Japan." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 9 Aug. 2011, [learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/08/09/aug-9-1945-u-s-drops-atomic-bomb-on-nagasaki-japan/](http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/08/09/aug-9-1945-u-s-drops-atomic-bomb-on-nagasaki-japan/).

<sup>35</sup> Evans, Redd. *Rosie the Riveter*. Paramount Music Corp., 1942.

<sup>36</sup> Evans, Redd. *Rosie the Riveter*. Paramount Music Corp., 1942.

<sup>37</sup> "American Women and World War II (Article)." *Khan Academy*, [www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/period-7/apush-us-wwii/a/american-women-and-world-war-ii](http://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/period-7/apush-us-wwii/a/american-women-and-world-war-ii).

After the six million female workers were dismissed from the war plants, and twelve million women were released from the army, they set off home with their heads held high.<sup>38</sup> Although these audacious women went home in hope of finding work in their community, most of them were soon discouraged. However, after the war there was a tremendous economic growth. The money saved up by these women throughout the war were able to buy houses and relocate different jobs, officially ending the Great Depression.<sup>39</sup> Women were able to find new jobs, but instead of machine operators and welders, they were put to work with low paying and low status jobs like grocers and homemakers.<sup>40</sup> However, women tried to obtain jobs in defense industries, but that only received discrimination and less pay than ever.

### **Changes and Compromises**

In Highland Park, Michigan, 200 women who had been laid off from working at Plant Ford protested.<sup>41</sup> They marched in front of Plant Ford holding up signs like “Why no work for women?” or “Stop discrimination because of gender!” Soon afterward, there were similar protests demanding equal rights.<sup>42</sup> Eventually they made a statement. By 1960 women were receiving 20% more of pay than they were earning during World War II.<sup>43</sup> Soon the Women’s Amendment came forth, which was a recipe written for a

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<sup>38</sup> Taylor, Alan. “World War II: After the War.” *The Atlantic*, Atlantic Media Company, 30 Oct. 2011, [www.theatlantic.com/photo/2011/10/world-war-ii-after-the-war/100180/](http://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2011/10/world-war-ii-after-the-war/100180/).

<sup>39</sup> “The Way We Won: America’s Economic Breakthrough During World War II.” *The American Prospect*, [prospect.org/article/way-we-won-americas-economic-breakthrough-during-world-war-ii](http://prospect.org/article/way-we-won-americas-economic-breakthrough-during-world-war-ii).

<sup>40</sup> Evans, Redd. *Rosie the Riveter*. Paramount Music Corp., 1942.

<sup>41</sup> Evans, Redd. *Rosie the Riveter*. Paramount Music Corp., 1942.

<sup>42</sup> Taylor, Alan. “World War II: Women at War.” *The Atlantic*, Atlantic Media Company, 11 Sept. 2011, [www.theatlantic.com/photo/2011/09/world-war-ii-women-at-war/100145/](http://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2011/09/world-war-ii-women-at-war/100145/).

<sup>43</sup> “Striking Women.” *Gender Pay Gap and the Struggle for Equal Pay | Striking Women*, [www.striking-women.org/module/workplace-issues-past-and-present/gender-pay-gap-and-struggle-equal-pay](http://www.striking-women.org/module/workplace-issues-past-and-present/gender-pay-gap-and-struggle-equal-pay).

collective struggle to gain equality, during the early 1970's. On March 22, 1972, the Equal Rights Amendment passed Congress and the U.S Senate, first proposed by the women's political party in 1923 ensuring equal rights to all citizens regardless of gender.

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## **Conclusion**

During World War II, the mobilization of female workers was extraordinary. Never before had the U.S launched nationwide propaganda campaigns to recruit citizens for the defense industry. Women workers flocked the factories willing to help win the war and do their patriotic duty even though a few years after they joined the women were asked to leave the factories. Therefore, women led strikes and campaigns asking for equal rights and shortly after World War II ended, women finally began receiving equal pay regardless of sex. Working women have shaped the society we live in today by working tirelessly in the factories when they were called upon during World War II and by fulfilling their home duty as a wife and mother to the veterans of America. Without these women it's likely that we would have never won World War II. The Equal Rights Amendment passed because of women, and because of this, our American workforce is made up of 50% of women today.

## **Primary**

Losin, Peter. *What Happened to Rosie?*

This was an important website for me because it told me everything that was happening while they were working and this site was where I found the most quotes from workers explaining their regular situation.

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<sup>44</sup> "Equal Rights Amendment." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 6 Jan. 2018, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal\_Rights\_Amendment.

“Rosie the Riveter.” UnitedStatesHistoryLSA,  
[unitedstateshistorylsa.wikispaces.com/Rosie+the+Riveter](http://unitedstateshistorylsa.wikispaces.com/Rosie+the+Riveter).

This site made me understand how the economy shifted when women returned home, and how they had better money to improve the life they returned back to.

Evans, Redd. Rosie the Riveter. Paramount Music Corp., 1942.

This book was my best primary source because it replayed the song and showed the words, and it wrote how many people reacted to this song for better or worse.

“Striking Women.” Post World War II: 1946-1970 | Striking Women,  
[www.striking-women.org/module/women-and-work/post-world-war-ii-1946-1970](http://www.striking-women.org/module/women-and-work/post-world-war-ii-1946-1970).

This site showed the number of ladies who were recruited in the workforce or how much ladies worked in factories. It explained the discrimination and how males were displeased and how they distrusted women.

“How the Rosie the Riveter Era Changed America: an African-American Woman's Story.” Public Radio International, “Rosie the Riveter in Real Life: Women Who Saved America.”

This short video recounted the own interviews of women who worked in the workforce and what it was like. They repeated discrimination quotes from male workers and the main public.

“German Foreign Policy, 1933–1945.” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

This source was helpful because it explained World War II and the history and even explained who won World War II and how it affected the economy the women worked in.

“American Women, World War II and Propaganda.” American Women, World War II and Propaganda, [uki16.wordpress.com/](http://uki16.wordpress.com/).

It made me realize that while most of the publicity that encouraged American citizens to sign up for the armed forces was directed at males, it began to shift its focus towards women as the war continued to drag on and less and less men were available to fight.

National Archives and Records Administration, National Archives and Records Administration,  
[www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers\\_of\\_persuasion/its\\_a\\_womans\\_war\\_too/its\\_a\\_womans\\_war\\_too.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers_of_persuasion/its_a_womans_war_too/its_a_womans_war_too.html).

This source directed the thought that the biggest accounted reason why women were so eager to enter the war was Rosie the Riveter and how this one fictitious character persuaded millions of women to work.

Hawkes, Sarah, et al. “Who Was Rosie the Riveter?” US History Scene,  
[ushistoryscene.com/article/rosie-the-riveter/](http://ushistoryscene.com/article/rosie-the-riveter/).

This history scene told me that after the war they did fight gender and racial discrimination to stay employed in their factory. No longer surrounded by fellow Riveters, females who remained in factory work began working side by side with men.

“We Can Do It! Images of Rosie Meant to Inspire Social and Political Movements.” Rosie the Riveter Archive, [scalar.usc.edu/students/rosie-the-riveter-archive/rosie-the-riveter-original-wwii-poster](http://scalar.usc.edu/students/rosie-the-riveter-archive/rosie-the-riveter-original-wwii-poster).

This source recalled the events that took place for the Women’s Liberation Movement to occur and stated that they also fought for equal pay and to work alongside male workers.

Question: What Did Eleanor Roosevelt Do during World War II?, [www2.gwu.edu/~erpapers/teaching\\_er/q-and-a/q21.cfm](http://www2.gwu.edu/~erpapers/teaching_er/q-and-a/q21.cfm).

Eleanor Roosevelt was a proponent to working women and was in favor of women work. It explained how she even asked for child day care centers to help the working mothers out.

## Secondary

“Complicating Rosie the Riveter.” OUPblog, 30 Dec. 2015, [blog.oup.com/2015/12/history-rosie-riveter/](http://blog.oup.com/2015/12/history-rosie-riveter/).

I learned that working women had a huge impact on the economy and the public. I learned that they worked day and night trying to win the war.

History.com Staff. “Eleanor Roosevelt.” History.com, A&E Television Networks, 2009, “WW2 Women Soldiers.” Pinterest, 28 Mar. 2015,

This was another site that taught me that Roosevelt helped women and spoke in rights for female workers. She was an activist for their rights and spoke for equal pay.

“United States Home Front during World War II.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 13 Dec. 2017, [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_home\\_front\\_during\\_World\\_War\\_II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_home_front_during_World_War_II).

This taught me the course of events that took place for the Women’s Liberation Movement to take place and listed all the achievements women conquered after they were dismissed after working so hard in factories.

“‘Rosie the Riveter’ Coveralls.” Wisconsin Historical Society, 19 Oct. 2012, [www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS2676](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS2676).

This was a site that recounted the work women did and how they helped the war effort. It also showed many interviews of women and it told me that there was more going on like how the women were discriminated.

Nichols, Nancy A. “Whatever Happened to Rosie the Riveter?” Harvard Business Review, 1 Aug. 2014, [hbr.org/1993/07/whatever-happened-to-rosie-the-riveter](http://hbr.org/1993/07/whatever-happened-to-rosie-the-riveter).

I was well informed from this site explaining who the Rosies are, and what happened to them after the war, like where did they go or what did they accomplish?

Wallace, Lane. "The Complex Legacy of Rosie the Riveter." *The Atlantic*, Atlantic Media Company, 11 Jan. 2011, [www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2011/01/the-complex-legacy-of-rosie-the-riveter/69268/](http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2011/01/the-complex-legacy-of-rosie-the-riveter/69268/).

This explained how complex this story proved to be and how many people rebelled against the Rosie, or who supported how well they worked and how brave they were.

THE BITTER SOUTHERNER, [bittersoutherner.com/the-real-rosies-rosie-the-riveter/#.WfjV6YGPK3A](http://bittersoutherner.com/the-real-rosies-rosie-the-riveter/#.WfjV6YGPK3A).  
[www.pri.org/stories/2016-03-24/how-rosie-riveter-era-changed-america-african-american-womans-story](http://www.pri.org/stories/2016-03-24/how-rosie-riveter-era-changed-america-african-american-womans-story).

This was the biggest source of knowledge of many interviews of women who worked in factories when they were much older, and why they really felt that it was their patriotic duty to serve in the war.

"Pearl Harbor (Article) | World War II." Khan Academy, [www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/period-7/apush-us-wwii/a/pearl-harbor](http://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/period-7/apush-us-wwii/a/pearl-harbor).

This told me the date of when the bomb was dropped on Pearl Harbor and the events that took place after the bomb was dropped, like how Kennedy declared war on Japan and how many men were recruited leaving the factories barely desolate.

02.03.09: How War Changed the Role of Women in the United States, [teachersinstitute.yale.edu/curriculum/units/2002/3/02.03.09.x.html](http://teachersinstitute.yale.edu/curriculum/units/2002/3/02.03.09.x.html).

This explained how women no longer had to tend to homes but had to work in factories. It described women lifting heavy machinery and working tractors and lifts, but they took this all bravely and strived to do their best.

Network, The Learning. "Aug. 9, 1945 | U.S. Drops Atomic Bomb on Nagasaki, Japan." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 9 Aug. 2011, [learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/08/09/aug-9-1945-u-s-drops-atomic-bomb-on-nagasaki-japan/](http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/08/09/aug-9-1945-u-s-drops-atomic-bomb-on-nagasaki-japan/).

This source described the calling of American women to enter the Workforce because the U.S government realized that they were coming to a shortage of men who were called to join in the army. I learned that women were called to tend the factories to produce munition.

"Equal Rights Amendment." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 6 Jan. 2018, [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal\\_Rights\\_Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal_Rights_Amendment).

This source showed the importance the Equal Rights Amendment provided and how women were able to work while getting equal pay after World War II.

Winter, Jay. "How the Great War Shaped the World." *The Atlantic*, Atlantic Media Company, 29 Sept. 2014,

I began to realize how World War I changed the world for how it would be later on, like greatly subverting Southern Europe and resulting in World War II. This site explained the causes of World War I and how it was left unresolved.