

Women's Rights Communicated Through a Law: Title IX

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Process Paper

I chose my topic from a list of many topics. I ended up picking Title IX because it has a lot to do with athletics. I am very into sports and competing, so knowing that all of these women in my project impacted who gets to compete in sports is important to me. It is also just a very interesting topic. This relates to the theme because it was communicated through a law. This is a very unique way of communication and shows that the change needed to be immediate. If it was just a suggestion, no schools would have changed. Since this was a law, it was enforced much harder.

I started conducting my research with note cards. Before I wrote information down, I created a document with a list of websites that I might use. I spent two days researching the historical context. I color coded those notecards blue so they would not be mixed up. Next, I researched the impact of Title IX over the course of two days and I color coded those pink. Then, I did the theme and how this all relates to communication. Last, I made another document with images and quotes from important people in my project.

I started creating my website with my thesis. Then, I did my other pages, but I did them out of order. I think if I had to do this again, I would need to be much more organized in my process. It was hard to know what to work on first because it was so out of order when I was creating it. I also procrastinated a lot, but not as much as I normally do. I think that is because my teacher set strict deadlines for research and rough drafts. It was very stressful, but not as stressful as it would be if I put the entire thing off for three weeks.

Thesis: Title IX, which was part of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, became a law in 1972 to communicate to schools that they needed to provide women with equal opportunities to men in all educational programs, including joining sports teams. This was communicated through the

law Title IX in order to enforce the changes for women in schools, such as being able to join the high school basketball team and receive scholarships.

My topic, Title IX: Women in Sports 1972, is so important to women, especially now. Before Title IX, most women did not have an opportunity to play any sports. To me this sounds crazy because I have played sports since I was three years old. Women before 1972 never really had the same opportunities as women today, but it is because of them that we get the opportunities that we do now.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

“Achieving Success Under Title IX (Continued).” *Archived: Achieving Success Under Title IX (Continued)*, US Department of Education (ED),
www2.ed.gov/pubs/TitleIX/part5.html#:~:text=In 1973, the University of,of all athletic scholarship dollars.

This website has statistics of how much the percentage of female athletes in college grew from 1971 to 1994 compared to the percent of male athletes.

Davison, Fred C. “Carrying Title IX Too Far.” *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 3 Dec. 1978,
www.nytimes.com/1978/12/03/archives/carrying-title-ix-too-far-issue-is-equal-access-fair-treatment-for.html.

This has an original image of a New York Times newspaper from 1978 on Title IX and its issues and benefits for women.

“Sports Illustrated: April 16, 1962 at Wolfgang's.” *Wolfgang's*,
www.wolgangs.com/vintage-magazines/sports-illustrated/vintage-magazine/OMS14786.html.

This website had an image of an original magazine cover of Donna de Varona from 1962.

“Title IX.” *National Archives Foundation*,
www.archivesfoundation.org/amendingamerica/title-ix/.

This has an image of the original document that Title IX is on.

“Usa Billie Jean King, 1973 Wimbledon Sports Illustrated Cover by Sports Illustrated.” *Sports Illustrated Covers*,
sicovers.com/featured/usa-billie-jean-king-1973-wimbledon-july-16-1973-sports-illustrate

d-cover.html.

This had a Sports Illustrated magazine cover from 1973 of Billie Jean King during her tennis match in London, England.

“Women's Sports History.” *National Women's History Museum*, 4 Aug. 2016,

www.womenshistory.org/articles/womens-sports-history.

This article is about how women participated in sports way before Title IX, and how sports were not intended to be competitive for women. There is an image of women playing tennis in 1922 that is in the Library of Congress.

Secondary Sources

Blumenthal, Karen. *Let Me Play: the Story of Title IX: the Law That Changed the Future of Girls in America*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005.

I used this book to learn more about important women who broke barriers in history through sports. This book had a lot about Donna de Varona and her story. It also gave me general knowledge about the background before Title IX.

Buck, Stephanie. “Beyond 'On the Basis of Sex'-Ginsburg's Strategy on Equality.” *Time*, Time, 24 Dec. 2018, time.com/5481422/rbg-movie-male-plaintiff-history/.

This article helped me learn more about RBG and her background in fighting for women's rights. It gave me more insight on important cases she argued in front of the Supreme Court before she became a justice.

“Changed the Game: Wyomia Tyus Made Olympic History in 1968 and No One Cared.” *Yahoo!*,

Yahoo!,

www.yahoo.com/entertainment/wyomia-tyus-made-olympic-history-in-1968-and-no-one-cared-131728160.html.

This source helped me learn about an unrecognized legend, Wyomia Tuys. Most people have never heard of her, but this website helped me understand a little more about her and her accomplishments in the olympics.

Friday, Julia O'Connell | "Before Title IX There Was RBG." *Global Sport Matters*, 28 Sept.

2020, globalsportmatters.com/opinion/2020/09/25/before-title-ix-there-was-rbg/.

This website talks about how important education was to RBG for everyone, both boys and girls, and how she influenced many people to fight for these rights.

"A History of Women in Sport Prior to Title IX." *The Sport Journal*, 12 Oct. 2016,

thesportjournal.org/article/a-history-of-women-in-sport-prior-to-title-ix/.

This article has a lot of historical context on early women sports and how they have evolved over time. It also has information on women's sports in college before Title IX.

"Impact of Title IX on Women's Sports: Billie Jean King." *Billie Jean King Enterprises*, 15 Sept.

2017, www.billiejeanking.com/equality/title-ix/#:~:text=The law opened doors and,1057 percent and by 614.

This website is about Billie Jean King and her accomplishments that she has in tennis. It talks a lot about her struggles as a female athlete and how it was before and after Title IX.

Rothman, Lily. "Title IX at 45: Amendment's Early Impact on Women's Sports." *Time*, Time, 23

June 2017, time.com/4822600/title-ix-womens-sports/.

This site had information on how playing sports benefitted both men and women and their mental health.

"Title IX Enacted." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 16 Nov. 2009,

www.history.com/this-day-in-history/title-ix-enacted.

This article gave me more insight on Title IX. It helped me to understand exactly what it is and why it became.

Walsh, Mark. "What Ruth Bader Ginsburg Meant to Education." *Education Week*, Education

Week, 8 Dec. 2020,

www.edweek.org/education/what-ruth-bader-ginsburg-meant-to-education/2020/09.

This article has even more background information on RBG. This goes a little more in depth to some of the cases that she fought and why.