



## Equal Rights Amendment Presentation

### Scope

The Equal Rights Amendment presentation brought to you by the Alice Paul Center for Gender Justice is a 45-minute presentation with an additional 15 minutes for questions, comments, and guided discussion. The slide presentation features historical research, archival photographs, and action steps to add to your feminist toolbox.

The cost of the presentation for feminist and partner organizations is \$100. This cost helps support our work to use feminist history to inspire feminist action, maintain the stewardship of Alice Paul's childhood home which is one of less than 3.8% of federally protected landmarks dedicated to women, and continue the work of public education around women's history.

### Presentation Outline

#### I: Alice Paul

- Who was Alice Paul and what did she do?
  - o Suffragist, introduced more militant approaches to the American suffrage, authored the Equal Rights Amendment, and founded the National Woman's Party.

#### II: Suffrage Amendment and the post 19<sup>th</sup> landscape

- o Post 19<sup>th</sup> amendment, many suffragists left public life believing the battle for equality was won, why did Alice Paul not join them and what did she do instead?

#### III: 1920-1923 ERA drafting process

- o Intellectual debates: protectionists vs. emancipationists
- o Cross national study on women's rights
- 1923 the ERA is first introduced to congress
  - o Republican senator and grandson of Susan B. Anthony introduces the ERA for the first time, where it will be introduced every year for the next 50 years until its passage in 1972.

#### **IV: How did Alice and the NWP advocate for ERA?**

- What are the important moments in early ERA advocacy?
- How did Alice Paul use research and scholarship to advocate for ERA?

#### **V: Anti-ERA arguments**

- The ERA received bipartisan support until the Eagle Forum and Phyllis Schlafly's anti-equality propaganda campaign
  - Why do women oppose equality?

#### **VI: The ERA In California and it's current status**

- What is the current status of the ERA and what can you do about it?
- What is the status of the ERA in California?
  - California used a ballot provision measure to ratify their state ERA in 1974. What is the difference between a state ERA and the federal ERA?
  - Why was this important and what were the results of the provision?
  - The immense pushback to ERA and equality measure by Californians, from the success of briefly repealing gay marriage in 2008 and the 1996 proposition to dismantle affirmative action, speaks to a larger push and pull of cultural equality in the state. What does the ERA have to do with this?

#### **VII: How can we continue to advocate for the ERA right now?**

Please contact Molly Gonzales at [mgonzales@alicepaul.org](mailto:mgonzales@alicepaul.org) if you have any questions