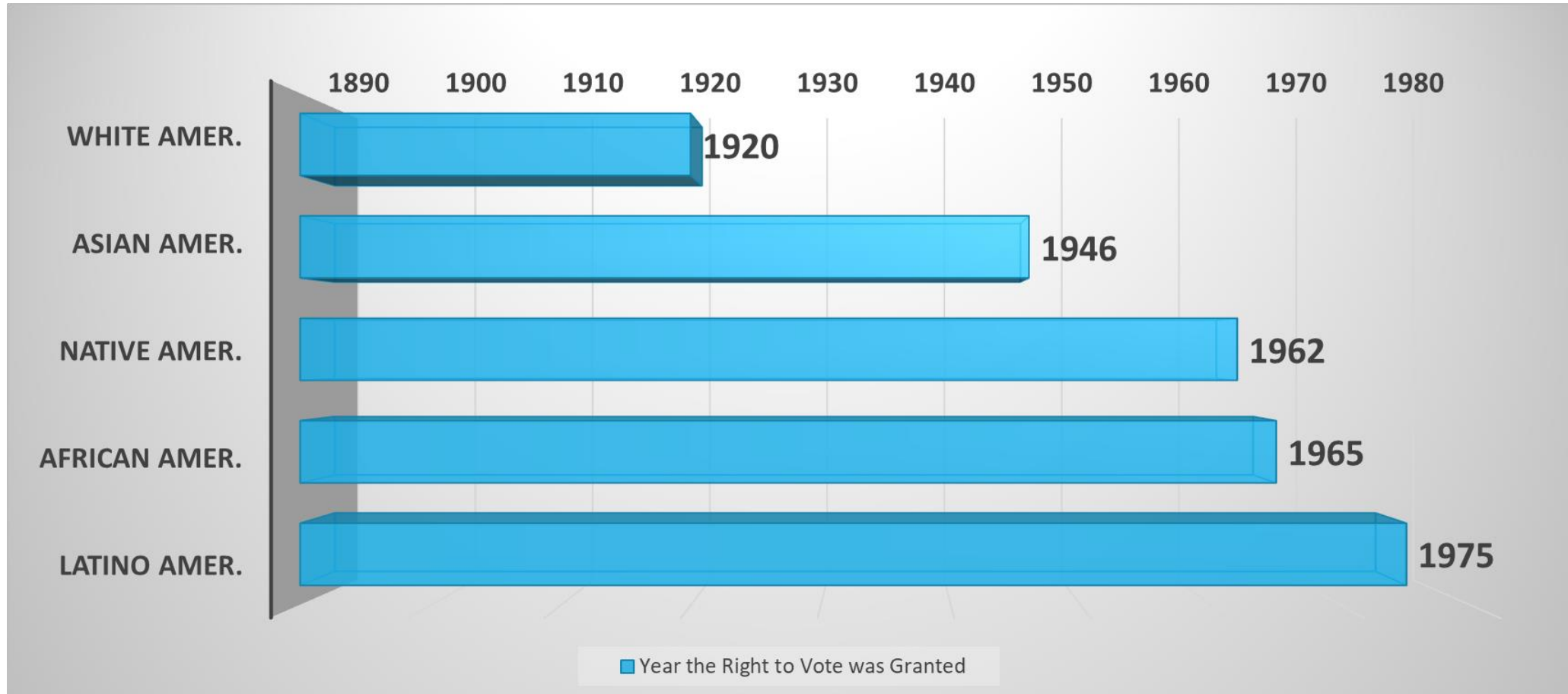




Women's Suffrage & the Struggle for Inclusion

Women's Suffrage Attained by Race



Significant Suffrage Events by Race

African-Americans

- **1866:** White and Black women form the American Equal Rights Assn (AERA) promoting suffrage for women of all races
- **1869:** AERA splits into two orgs as women and Black men vie for suffrage. *
*Some White suffragists employed racial prejudice in order to win the southern female vote.
- **1965:** Voting Rights Act passed allowing Blacks and minorities to vote.

Native-Americans

- **1890:** Native-Americans are granted a path to citizenship (with tribal ID only)
- **1924:** The right for Native-Americans to vote is granted state-by-state
- **1962:** Native-Americans in all states are granted the right to vote

Asian-Americans

- **1946:** Chinese-Americans receive the right to vote via the Magnuson Act
- **1952:** The Naturalization Act restricting Japanese-Americans from voting was repealed

Hispanic-Americans

- **1975:** Extension of the Voting Rights Act passed allowing citizens with “language barriers” to vote



Trail-Blazing African-American Suffragists



Mary Church Terrell:
1st President of Nat'l
Assn of Colored
Women; addressed
Nat'l American Women
Suffrage Assn in 1898



Mary McLeod Bethune:
Organized Black voters and
worked to elect community-
minded officials; started a
training school for
Black girls in 1904.



Sarah Parker:
Leader in anti-slavery
societies; she was evicted
from a Boston theater, sued
then won \$500 in court;
became a lecturer
against slavery

Notable Native-American Suffragists



Zitkala-Sa:

Co-founder of the Society of American Indians advocating for Native-American rights; later founded the National Council of American Indians, an important citizenship organization.



Debra Lekanoff:

A member of the Tlingit tribe, Debra represents the 40th district, only the second female tribal member to serve in the Washington State House of Representatives.



Susette LaFlesche Tibbles:

Served as interpreter and witness for Native-Americans in federal trials; worked towards recognition of U.S. citizenship for Native-Americans.

Significant Asian-American Suffragists



Mabel Lee:

At 16, she led a suffragist parade of 10,000; became the first Chinese woman to receive a PhD from Columbia University; helped Chinese-American women march for suffrage.



Patsy Mink:

The first Asian-American woman to serve in Congress or to run for president; fought for gender and racial equality, affordable childcare, and bilingual education.

Outstanding Hispanic Suffragists



Jovita Idar:

Trained as a teacher, she left teaching to pursue activism and wrote about women's suffrage; her many accomplishments include providing education for Mexican-American students and advocating for fair treatment of Hispanics.



Dolores Huerta:

Also received training as a teacher but spent much of her career as a labor and civil activist leading voter registration drives and worker's rights groups; in later years, worked towards election of Hispanics and women to political office.

Washington State and Women's Suffrage

1853: Washington Territory's first legislative session voted for women's suffrage—lost by one vote

1883: Full voting rights are granted to women in the Washington Territory, including African-American women

1887: Supreme Court strikes down the law that granted Washington women the right to vote from 1883

1871: Susan B. Anthony addresses Washington Legislature, the first woman ever to present to a state legislature

1910: Washington passes women's suffrage 2:1, leading the remaining western states to pass voting legislation

2019: Washington State legalizes non-traditional addresses on voter registrations, common for Native-Americans

Voting Rights & Obstacles for Minority Women



All women suffragists endured discrimination, ridicule, and abuse for the right to vote

Non-white women face additional harassment against their skin color, heritage, and native language

Even after federal laws allow voting rights for women of all races, state laws may still make it difficult to vote

Voting rights continue to be eroded by partisan politics and gerrymandering

Minorities are common targets for voter suppression and misinformation

Types of Voter Suppression Methods in Current Use



Voter ID Requirements



Reduced Early Voting



Restricted Polling Hours Conflict with Work
Schedule



Poll Site Harassment



Purging Inactive Voter Registrations



Unreasonable Name-Matching Requirements
(e.g. hyphens, accents)



Insufficient, Closed, or Under-equipped Polling
Stations

It's Not All Bad News— Fighting Voter Suppression



Encourage absentee ballots. Voting by mail eliminates many problems around polling locations



Encourage registered voters to double-check polling locations and voter registrations online in advance



If you or others show up at the wrong location, demand a provisional ballot—it's your right



Help register voters and defeat suppressive policies



Support efforts to make Election Day a holiday and automatic voter- and election-day registration



WA State passed vote by mail and open voter registration laws in 2018. So REGISTER and VOTE!