

# NFB Films

★ A CITIZENSHIP FILM  
FOR MANY COMMUNITY GROUPS

## Women on the March

Black & White 60 minutes

Produced by the National Film Board of Canada, 1958.



### The Film

At the turn of this century, woman's place was in the home, with limited employment opportunities and no right to vote.

Today, after prolonged and determined efforts in many lands, women's record of achievements reflects their new status.

In government, at the United Nations and in many professions, women continue to prove their ability in important roles.

### Uses

Especially recommended to I.O.D.E. chapters, Women's Institutes, Y.W.C.A. groups, Business and Professional Women's clubs, labor union locals, U.N. associations, Church women's groups and many other organizations concerned with civil rights.

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### HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THE FILM IN YOUR GROUP

- (1) **Preview** *the film so that you become familiar with its content and can stimulate discussion. You may wish to use the first 30 minutes (Part 1) of the film, followed by audience discussion or participation, and then show the remainder of the film.*
- (2) **Prepare** *a brief introduction, perhaps relating the subject of the film to the role of women in the local community.*
- (3) **Select** *your plan for group discussion after the film showing. Why not divide your group into a number of smaller groups, asking each group to appoint its own chairman and recorder, and assign one of the questions below for consideration by each group?*

(See over for some other methods of discussion)

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### SOME IDEAS AND QUESTIONS TO STIMULATE DISCUSSION

Canadian women are among the fortunate ones in the world who have attained a relatively high status. They have the right to vote and hold public office. But according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights "everyone has the right to work" and to "free choice of employment". How do Canadian women fare? (See article on "Women as Citizens in Canada and the World", reprinted from *The Citizen*, December 1958.)

At the Seminar for Asian Women, Bangkok, 1957, the following statement was made, which could well have come from a meeting of Canadian women. "It is most important that women fully understand that their responsibilities as citizens, as individuals, and as family members are indivisible and that good citizenship starts at home," and further that "women should be made conscious of the desirability of combining their family responsibilities with participation in public life."

How can more women be influenced to run for public office in your community? e.g. as school board members, aldermen, reeve, etc.?

What do you think prevents women from being elected to (a) municipal offices, (b) the provincial Legislature, (c) the House of Commons?

What does the expression "good citizenship starts at home" mean?

Is there any discrimination against women in your community? Consider, for example, opportunities for promotion, equal pay for equal work, types of occupations held by women, married women holding jobs.

How can women be stimulated to take a more active interest in civic and international affairs?

# Let's Discuss



## *When the film ends...*

Here are some suggested plans for discussion of this film in your group:

★ (a) **INFORMAL DISCUSSION:**

1. Start the "conversational ball" rolling by giving a personal observation for the groups to consider.
2. Encourage people to talk to each other.
3. If seats can be moved, arrange the group members so that they are face to face.
4. Try to develop an exchange of ideas, drawing out people in the process.

★ (b) **IF THE GROUP IS LARGE:**

Try dividing into smaller groups -- in "buzz-session" style. Each small group can discuss a topic or a question briefly, and then report to the entire group.

★ (c) **AN "IMPROMPTU" PANEL:**

Three or four members might start discussion, with you as leader inviting participation, discussion and comment from other group members.

★ (d) **WHEN YOU HAVE AN "EXPERT" OR RESOURCE PERSON PRESENT:**

You might prepare them ahead of time to answer questions (or to comment, contribute facts or opinions) but be aware of the dangers of "speech-making" or dominating the discussion.

### **SOME FURTHER HINTS FOR LEADERS:**

1. Try not to force agreement.
2. Try not to give "answers."
3. Don't put members "on the spot."
4. Encourage participation.
5. Be sympathetic.

Would you like further help in leading a discussion?

Why not get in touch with your Public Library (for books on the subject), and with representatives of your Community Programs Branch, your University Extension Department, or the District Representative of the National Film Board nearest you.



**YOUR ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED . . .**

Was this film helpful to your group?

You are invited to share your experiences with other film users by giving us your comments on the value of the film to your group. Please complete the space on the reverse side of the NFB Showing Report Card.