Different Approaches to Diversity Issues (1865-1925)

Tish M.

Author Note

Different approaches to diversity approaches

The American history includes the incidents which reflect upon the cultural values and the social structure, the Americans live in today. These social structures and values are built over the efforts and sacrifices of millions of American. The America known today upholds the values of human rights and most importantly, of the democracy, but this had not been the case in past.

# History and issues

This assignment focuses over different approaches the suffrage movement of women adopted. These approaches, however, resulted in the success for women, but mostly these movements remained in conflict over the political interests. During this time, women rights to vote was considered in conflict to the values and norms of the world society at large. But despite the utmost effort to curtail these rights and norms, the suffrage movement helped women to achieve their right to vote. These movements were started in different parts of the world, during the same time, however, the American values and culture got influenced a bit fast, compared in the European or other cultures (Alice Paul 2012).

In order to analyze, the influence of suffrage movement over the American values, one needs to consider different aspects. For example, there are different perspectives attached to why America adopted certain values earlier than other countries. Similarly, the history suggests that despite the historical European influence, over America, why these values got late acceptance in European countries. If one aims at considering these diverse perspectives, it remains pertinent to consider what led the outburst of the suffrage values. In the case of America, the civil war period (1865 to 1925), shaped these values in a certain manner (Alice Paul 2012). Women of that time played a much significant role, which is not found in European history throughout. In order to format their efforts, the American women organized rallies and demonstrated the will to participate in issues which concern their rights and duties (Alice Paul 2012). The following two organizations remained influential in providing a platform to the American women. The approaches adopted by the two organizations for women right to vote are as follow

# Approaches of National American Women’s Suffrage Association

The National American Women Suffrage Association was one of the premier organization formed in 1890 to favour the American women rights. At the start or during the last decade of the nineteenth century, the motto and organizational perspectives attached to this organization were more related to social struggles. The right to vote became popular when the suffragette movements started prevailing in the European continent. The political motive behind such movements remained to get the due rights of the vote, since the women constituted a major chunk of the American population. Later, other small movements related to the suffrage rights of women became dominant in the US, but this movement remained a leading organization working for women’s rights. The political policies of NAWSA however, were limited in scope. As Paul believes that since the political activities were limited and there remained a dearth of organized political values, therefore, NAWSA focused throughout at building a social setup conducive for women (Alice Paul 2012).

# Approaches of National Women’s Party

The National Women Party, compared to the NAWSA organization enjoyed less political influence. There were many reasons for that, for example, the critics of these organizations from that time believed that such organizations bring nothing, but political humiliations and distress among the general public. They also believed that since America is facing opposition from large groups (the civil war), therefore the demands of these organizations and parties could be met later on. The approaches followed by NWP, aimed at exploring more viable mean to get the due rights. Schultz writes that NWP though had a narrow following, but compared to other organization of such statue, the NWP was clearer about its motto and the political will, they had been fighting for (Schultz 2004). Behind the political motives, there was less racial discrimination, and the regional forums of the parties were even led by the Black women.

# The virtues and problems associated with strategies

Though the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, laid the basis for the suffragette movement, the social changes that were taking place, gradually laid the basis for such mass movements. The women and the political activists that had been part of these movements never considered, their social backwardness or the absence of opportunities as the stepping stones for them, rather they built their efforts in the very short domain of time (Schultz 2004). There were different problems for these movements as well. Some of these problems were more political in nature, some were related to the social backlash these movements were facing, and some were restricted to the general impressions, which many believe was negative. Interestingly, despite these problems, the women activists made their way to what they believe was worth for (Carrie Chapman Catt n.d.). Throughout their struggle to get the due rights, women activists remain quite confident and there was a general impression that these movements do not include racial violence or segregation of any type.

# The success associated with both the strategies

The American women exercising the right of the vote was the ultimate success, they envisioned, and ultimately they were successful in getting that. Interestingly, throughout their struggles, there were different patterns being followed to achieve due rights. However, success became equally relevant to their struggles against violence over women and making them exercise the right to vote (Schultz 2004). The organizations referred above were the major initiator of such campaigns, and their strategies were at little discords but generally aimed at winning social privileges for women.

# References:

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