

## **Choosing and Relating the Topic to the Annual Theme**

Although not a revolution by definition, feminist movements across the globe have long been a point of political tension and a catalyst for both social and governmental reforms. Despite the monumental effects, many names and goals have been buried in the depths of history, and it's our fundamental mandate as scholars to appreciate the changes they brought about. Narrowing the movement, time period, and leaders proved challenging. Many international radical groups have little documentation, making it difficult to gauge their true motives and actions. We ultimately focused on the United States, France, Cuba, and Afghanistan. The contrasting governments and societies made for a compelling comparison.

## **Conducting Research**

Once we picked the radical feminists we wished to highlight, we began with their Wikipedia pages to gauge a general sense of their missions. Next, when available, we read portions of their books, speeches, and organizational manifestos. Afterward, explored applicable context and continuities to solidify our understanding and create a cohesive analysis on each woman, both individually and in conversation with one another.

## **Creating the Website**

When developing our website, we aimed to highlight images and quotes from specific movements and groups to create a visual connection that parallels our research. We began with the home page, featuring images of feminist movements in the U.S. and a quote from *The Dialectic of Sex; The Case for feminist Revolution* by Shulamith Firestone, "A mother who undergoes a nine-month pregnancy is likely to feel that the product of all that pain and discomfort 'belongs' to her," to emphasize our thesis. We outlined each page, learning through

trial and error how best to organize and design the sight. Currently, our website consists of a home page, a page for each core country, a thesis page, a context page, a bibliography, and a page for additional information. Each follows a consistent layout: key information, 1-2 relevant images, and engaging elements like quotes or notable facts.

### **Thesis explanation**

We developed our thesis upon realizing that, despite the reform and progress radical feminists achieved, their ultimate goal to abolish the patriarchy was unsuccessful. Interestingly, many of their strongest opponents were other feminists. This unforeseen adversary spurred us to explore the diversity of feminist thought and its internal contradictions.

### **Historical Significance**

Even though the radical feminist movement did not fully achieve its mission, it served as a catalyst for global reform. Major, shocking protests generated major, shocking reform. Their activism redefined the public perception of women's rights, inspiring later generations to continue challenging inequality through legislation, education, and cultural change. The echoes of their defiance still resonate today, reminding us that progress is rarely absolute, but always built upon those bold enough to begin it.