

Sandra Day O'Connor, appointed to the Supreme Court on the 25th of September, 1981, broke barriers when she became the first woman on the Supreme Court. O'Connor was well known in the Court for being firm and for her dispassionate and meticulously researched arguments and she was considered a decisive swing vote in the Supreme Courts decisions. Sandra Day O'Connor paved the way for women in law and politics who were trying to pursue their careers. We chose the topic, Sandra Day O'Connor, because there would be a lot of information on her, her work, and her impact. We knew that we would find a lot of strong and quality opinions either for or against her and her decisions.

We started by searching for only things about Sandra Day O'Connor to get a feel of what to look for. Then we started being more specific like looking up her biggest cases, how she voted, and what she did after she retired. We found most of the books together, but we split up finding websites. One partner found most of the images and the other found most of the newspaper articles. Some of Sandra Day O'Connor's autobiographies helped too. We also got an interview with Jonathan Gelbert, who is the Director of Education Initiatives and Innovation at the Sandra Day O'Connor Institute.

We decided to do a website as our presentation category since it seemed to be in the middle ground of easy and hard. We could also easily work on it whenever and wherever we wanted to. We also choose to do a website because we could make very quick and simple changes. There were some problems and bugs that happen in the NHD website creator that we had to work around but we slowly started to figure things out as we went. We split up the tasks of what to do so one person put in most of the text, half of the images, and choose the layout and the other person did the color schemes, edited mistakes, and put in the other half of the images.

Our topic relates to the theme of Breaking Barriers because Sandra Day O'Connor helped break the barrier against women's discrimination by being the first female justice on the Supreme Court. O'Connor showed that women could be professional in law and business. Since her nomination, women have been treated more equal and have been hired into more law firms. Sandra Day O'Connor has inspired many people to stand up against sexism, whether they are male or female. She also changed the way the court thinks about their decisions and how judges today make their decisions based on what best follows the constitution. After O'Connor retired from the Supreme Court, she created the Sandra Day O'Connor Institute, which revolves around law and society. Sandra Day O'Connor has been a key part in the movement against discrimination against women because she was not fazed by the sexist comments and kept on supporting equality for women.