



Better Days 2020 Reading Club

WEEK 6

HOW BLACK SUFFRAGISTS FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO VOTE AND A MODICUM OF RESPECT

When we discussed the division within the suffrage movement, we mentioned how the major women's suffrage organizations like NAWSA and the NWP failed to address the concerns of women of color. This week, we're looking at black suffragists who tackled the issue on their own terms; specifically Hallie Quinn Brown, who led the era's largest organization of black women, the National Association of Colored Women (NACW). The NACW continued fighting for women's suffrage long after most major suffrage organizations declared victory in 1920. Following the 19th Amendment's ratification, black women and men still faced many barriers in voting, especially in the southern states. Martha S. Jones' article explores how black suffragists faced these challenges head on.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- How did many black women get their start in the suffrage movement? What were their concerns?
- What role did Hallie Quinn Brown play in leading black suffragists? What were some of her goals?
- What barriers did black women face in voting even after the 19th Amendment?