
Title IX:

The Day the Gridiron Turned Pink

Jr. Division Exhibit

Seth Franco and Dylan Gill

Student-created words: 479

Process Paper: 482

This year's National History Day Theme, Rights and Responsibilities, offered many great topics to consider, but we ended up selecting Title IX, which is the law that opened the door to equal access for girls and women across our nation. We chose this topic because we wanted a topic that would be unexpected for two boys. Also, we had a couple of girls that were on our football team this year so we were both wondering how girls were able to participate in a sport that is dominated by males. Before History Fair this year we didn't even know that Title IX existed and even though it seems normal that girls play lots of different sports today, it has not always been that way.

We began conducting our research by searching websites for background information. We then searched for primary and secondary sources at both our school library and local library. We also spoke to Mr. Mulvaney, a district athletic director, so that we would have a better understanding of Title IX and how it applies to public schools. We also spoke a woman business owner, as well as a female athlete to who went to school on a sports scholarship. These interviews helped us gain a personal perspective of our project.

We chose to do an exhibit board and used colors to represent both sides of Title IX. We chose black because we thought that it would represent the

masculine side of sports. It was very hard for us to decide to border all of the pictures in pink because we feel that we are very manly! It worked out however because the use of pink on the board represents the integration of females into the places that only men could participate in before Title IX. Our titles represent the process of Title IX in sports terminology. Holding Penalty, showed that women were being held from their rights and forward progress demonstrated that woman wanted progress towards rights. Starting Lineup, included key people in the Title IX process. In the middle of our board, we used First Down and Score! Touchdown!, to show that women obtained victory with this legislation. We used Personal Foul to show that the reaction to Title IX was not always positive. Our final title, Superbowl Bound, presented the important impacts of Title IX.

Our project relates to the theme of Rights and Responsibilities because Title IX established the right of gender equity in education, jobs, and sports. Although we are focusing our project on sports because we feel that sports scholarships have offered women the opportunities to further themselves in the education and business world more than ever before, Title IX has made it possible for the door to be opened into many different areas that were previously closed. This

historically significant legislation has changed the lives of girls and women across our nation.

Works Cited

Primary Sources

"AP Photos." *Associated Press*. N.p., 29 Oct. 2010. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<<<http://apimages.ap.org>>>.

From the Associated Press collection of primary source photographs, we used pictures from this source throughout the project to show women playing sports, in both historical and modern times.

Bitterley, Jessica. Telephone interview. 28 Apr. 2014.

In this interview we learned that Jessica Bitterley, through the help of her athletic scholarships to UTSA, has no school debt. Her scholarship built her self confidence and will help her in her future life endeavors. We used this to gain an understanding of how important sports scholarships can be to people.

Bitterley, Michelle. Telephone interview. 21 Apr. 2014.

We interviewed Mrs. Bitterley, who is a small business owner. In this interview, we learned that business women can be successful in today's society and that if this business was started twenty years earlier; she might have had a harder time achieving that success.

Gal, Thomson. *Title IX, Education Amendments (1972)*. N.p.: N.p., 2004. Print. Vol. 3 of *Acts of Congress*. N-2 vols.

From this book, we learned about legislative components of Title IX that provided specific gender rights. We used this information on our board to describe the wording associated with Title IX.

Goldenbach, Alan. "Title IX's Measured Debate." *The Washington Post* [Washington D.C.] 23

June 2007: n. pag. *The Washington Post*. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/22/AR2007062201812.html>>.

From this newspaper article, we found information on the continuing Title IX debate. We learned that Title IX has made a huge difference in all aspects of sports. This article showed different perspectives of what people think of the law. The article also demonstrated to us that not everyone agreed with the creation of the law.

Green, Lee. "Title IX Compliance in Scholastic Athletics." *National Federation of State Highschool Associations*. NFHS Publications, n.d. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<<http://www.nfhs.org/content.aspx?id=6922>>.

This website was beneficial because it helped us to see the historical changes in Title IX in regards to high school athletics. From this website, we used the Playing Fair information and put it on the front of the locker. This allowed us to present the major compliance parts of Title IX.

Library of Congress. Library of Congress, 10 Oct. 2010. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/>>.

The Library of Congress digital collection provided many primary source photographs of women in sports. We used several photos in the project.

Mulvaney, Bernie. Telephone interview. 2 Feb. 2014.

From this interview with a school district Athletic Director, we learned that today's athletics programs are definitely impacted by Title IX and that Title IX is still a work in

progress. We also found out that Title IX is housed by the Civil Rights office. We were able to get an understanding from a coaches view and used this information as a source of background knowledge.

National Collegiate Athletic Association. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

Originally opposed to Title IX and the impact that it would have on men's sports, the NCAA now provides a variety of materials to female college athletes including sexual harassment procedures and resources for pregnant athletes. We used this information to gain an understanding of the areas of Title IX outside of sports as well as within the sports arena.

"Now." *Now*. N.p., 21 Jan. 2011. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<http://www.now.org/issues/title_ix/index.html>.

Since the creation of Title IX, the NOW (National Organization of Women) has been involved in various aspects of Title IX, including opinions and legal cases. We were able to get statistical information and graphs on the rapidly changing percents of women attending college, playing sports, and women in employment positions. This website helped us understand that Title IX did have a great impact on women's education.

"Report to Congressional Requesters Intercollegiate Athletics." *USGAO*. United States General Accounting Office, 25 Oct. 2010. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d01297.pdf>>.

This primary source document created the USGAO provided statistical data on the changes in both women's and men's sports, specifically the discontinued men's teams in comparison to the women's teams.

Seeking Reform. Dir. Goldhil. Discovery Education, 2003. Film.

A 1940 video shows the women's movement seeking reform in a variety of settings, including employment and wages. This video was used to show the unequal positions men and women had historically.

Tannenbaum, Amy. E-mail interview. 24 Apr. 2014.

We interviewed Amy Tannenbaum who is the Program Assistant of Education and Employment at the National Women's Law Center. In this interview, we learned that it's everyone's responsibility, not just women's, to fight for equal opportunity. We also learned that it is still important to fight for Title IX because without it, women face challenges in getting high-paying jobs.

"Title IX and Women's Athletics." *New Jersey Digital Highway*. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<http://njdigitalhighway.org/enj/lessons/title_ix_equality/>.

From this website, we gathered a few of the quotes that are listed on the exhibit board. These quotes showed us how people felt at the time that Title IX was being debated.

Washington D.C.: Lady Wrestling. Lou Reda Productions, 2004. *Discovery Education*. Web. 29 Apr. 2014. <<http://www.discoveryeducation.com/>>.

From Discovery Education, this video clip shows a wrestling match between two women in 1951. This video tells of how the women were "unladylike" and that belief that women's sports at that time were predominantly for entertainment only.

Women in Non-Traditional Gender Roles. Intelcom, 2005. Film.

This video highlights football, one of the nation's most popular sports. Traditionally a male sport, football is now available to females under Title IX.

"Women's Athletics." *University of Wisconsin History and Exhibits*. University of Wisconsin Archives and Records Management, 2 Dec. 2010. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<<http://archives.library.wisc.edu/uw-archives/exhibits/athletics/athletics01intro.html>>.

A variety of archived materials including primary source documents, photos, and testimonials were provided in this website. We used many of the pictures of the sports available to women prior to Title IX.

"Women's Sports Foundation." *Women's Sports Foundation*. Women's Sports Foundation, 30 Nov. 2010. Web. 29 Apr. 2014. <http://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/Issues-And_Research/Title-IX.aspx>.

This website provided many facts, graphs, stories, and legal cases detailing Title IX.

Founded in 1974, this group was influential in many Title IX debates. This was one of the most important sites that we used for our project because it covered many aspects of women's sports.

Secondary Sources

Arat, Zehra F. Kabasakal. "Women's Rights as Human Rights." *UN Chronicle* 2008: n. pag. *UN Chronicle*. Web. 29 Apr. 2014. <<http://sks.sirs.com/cgi-bin/hst-article-display?id=STX3591-0-8709&artno=000294468&&shfilter=U&key=Women%27s%20rights%in%20education&title=Women%27s%20Rights%20As%20Human%20Rights&res=Y&ren=Y&gov=Y&lnk=Y&ic=N>>.

This article provided information regarding the different accommodations Title IX provided. The article introduced the different rights women did and did not have before the enactment of Title IX.

Brady, Erik. "More and More Girls Got Game." *USA Today* (2003): n. pag. Web. 29 Apr. 2014. <http://www.usatoday.com/sports/preps/2003-06-30-preps-participation_x.htm>.

From this website, we used a graph showing the change in percentages of boys and girls who played sports in high school. Many of the changes occurred in girl's sports, specifically with availability and number of women playing.

Carrington, Evelyn M. *Women in Early Texas*. Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1994. Print.

In this book, we found information on how women were treated as compared to men. We used this information in the thesis page of my website to gather and understanding of the way women in Texas were treated.

Curtis, Mary C. "Landmark Title IX Cases in History." *Landmark Title IX Cases in History*. N.p., 21 Jan. 2011. Web. 29 Apr. 2014. <<http://bailiwick.lib.uiowa.edu/ge/historyRE.html>>.

We obtained a time line of Title IX events from this website. We used this information on our football timeline.

Evans, Sara M. *Tidal Wave How Women Changed America at Century's End*. New York City: Library of Congress, 2003. Print.

This book explains all the areas and ways Title IX affected the country. It describes places and incidents that Title IX attributed to. It also shows how women have been

helped throughout their sport lives, thanks to Title IX. It also describes how in some cases the law did not help.

Gogol, Sara. *Hard Fought Victories Women Coaches Making a Difference*. Indianapolis: Wish Publishing, 2002. Print.

This book describes stories of women who had a difficult time during the years before Title IX was created. One example was Barbara Viera, a woman with very good educational skills but did not have the same advantages in education as men. These personal stories provided an understanding of the struggles women faced.

Hanson, Katherine, Vivian Goilfoy, and Sarita Pillai. *More Than Title IX: How Equality in Education Has Shaped the Nation*. N.p., 1 Dec. 2010. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<http://clerk.house.gov/art_history/highlight.html?action=view&intID=148>.

From this website, we took a short summary on the life of Edith Green. We also retrieved a picture of Edith Green.

Hemming, Heidi. *Women Making America*. Silver Spring: Clotho Press, 2009. Print.

Women Making America was one of our most useful sources for our project. This book had a large section of information detailing the historical changes that were going on across America, as well as the different women's groups who wanted forward progress in regards to women's rights.

"History of Title IX." *Title IX*. Joey Co., 26 Oct. 2010. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<<http://www.titleix.info/History/History-Overview.aspx>>.

From this website we gathered information on the history of Title IX. We were able to read the actual law from this website. This website lists the 10 key areas the law also applies to such as career education, access to higher education, education for parenting

and pregnant students, employment, learning environment, math and science, sexual harassment, standardization testing and technology.

Lancaster, Michael. "Title IX Law and Intercollegiate Athletics." *NCAA Athletic Scholarships*.

N.p., 23 Jan. 2011. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<<http://www.athleticscholarships.net/scholarships-women-title-ix.htm>>.

This website provided a variety of data and graphs related to the opportunities women now have for scholarships. Prior to Title IX, women only received a small percentage of the available sports scholarships.

Lipsyte, Robert. "Back Talk; Title IX Debate is About Football." *New York Times* [New York

City] 12 May 2002: n. pag. *New York Times*. Web. 29 Apr. 2014.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/05/12/sports/backtalk-title-ix-debate-is-about-football.html>>.

The article helped me to see the different points of view concerning Title IX and their arguments against it as well as what it has done to our country.

McCarthy, Glynnis. "Title IX of the Higher Education Act." *ABC-CLIO eBook Collection*. ABC,

21 Oct. 2010. Web. 29 Apr. 2014. <[http://issues.abc-](http://issues.abc-clio.com/Authentication/LogOn?returnUrl=%2Fsearch%2Fdisplay%2F1479448%3Fterms%3Dwomen's%2Beducation%2Brights)

[clio.com/Authentication/LogOn?returnUrl=%2Fsearch%2Fdisplay%2F1479448%3Fterms%3Dwomen's%2Beducation%2Brights](http://issues.abc-clio.com/Authentication/LogOn?returnUrl=%2Fsearch%2Fdisplay%2F1479448%3Fterms%3Dwomen's%2Beducation%2Brights)>.

We read and used information on the history of Title IX, how Title IX was enacted, and its impact. This article also lists controversial issues of Title IX.

Pennington, Bill. "Title IX Trickles Down to Girls of Generation Z." *New York Times* [New

York City] 29 June 2004: n. pag. Print.

From the NY Times, this article described several of the recent Title IX court cases. To this day, girls understand the imbalance of women as compared to men.

Stevenson, Betsey. E-mail interview. 8 Feb. 2011.

Betsey Stevenson, a professor at Wharton University of Pennsylvania, is currently serving as the Chief Economist at the Department of Labor. She directed us to her research, which provides an in-depth study of the impact of Title IX.

Weatherford, Doris. *A Chronology of American Women's History*. New York City: Library of Congress, 1997. Print.

From this book we attained information on early women making a difference and their roles in society that have helped change the country. We also learned important statistics concerning Title IX and its effect and impact on women's rights in the 20th century.

Winslow, Barbara. "The Impact of Title IX." *Gilder Lehrman*. N.p., 5 Dec. 2010. Web. 29 Apr. 2014. <http://www.gilderlehrman.org/historynow/03_2010/historian6.php>.

This website allowed us to learn about the various impacts Title IX had on the country. We were able to list some of these impacts on our exhibit board.