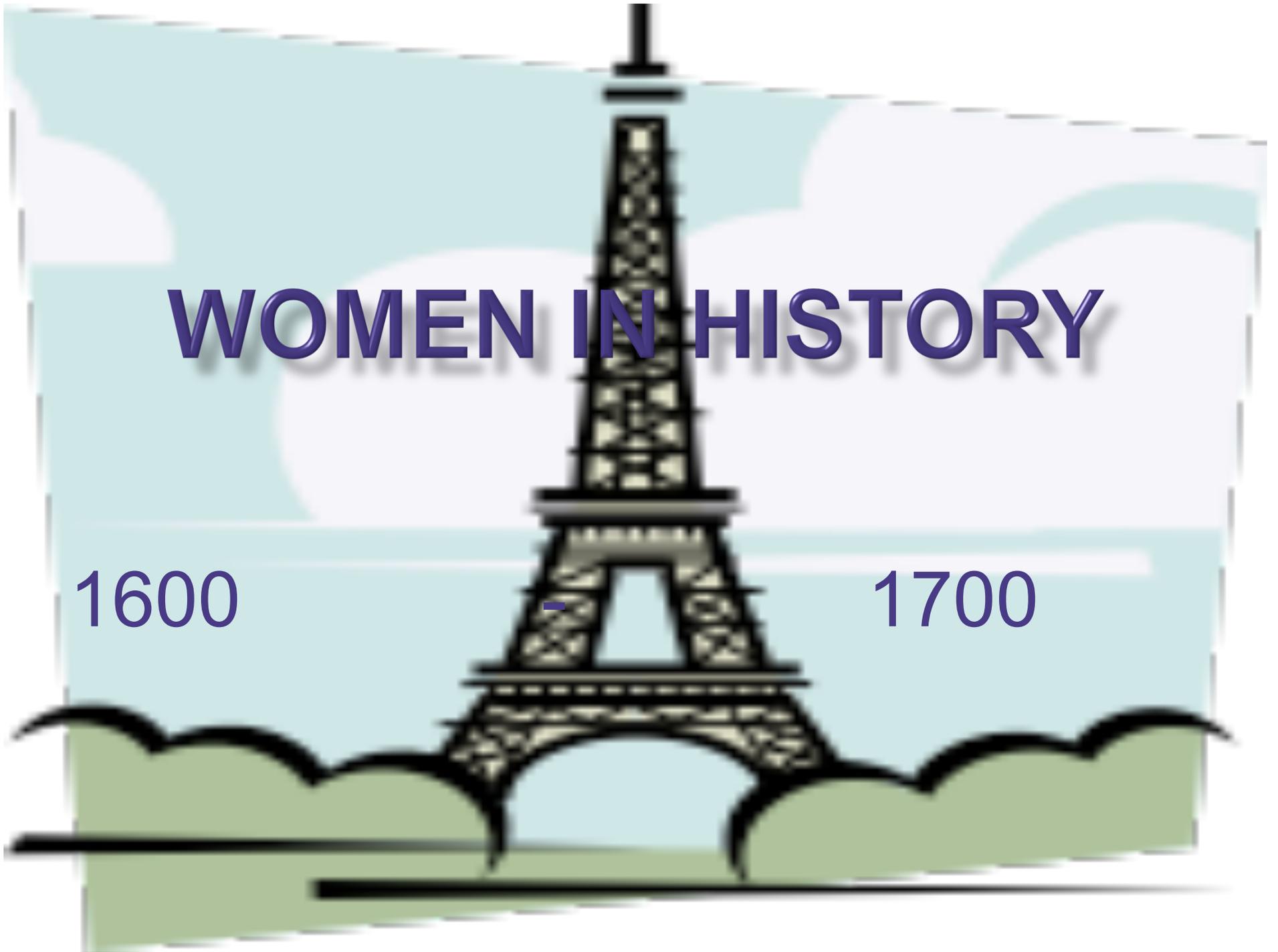


WOMEN IN HISTORY

1600

-

1700





Women's Political Roles

Christina of Sweden



1626– 1689

- ▣ She was Queen of Sweden from 1632 to 1654 (Child of King Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden)
- ▣ Difficulties with issues of taxation and governance, and problematic relations with Poland plagued Christina's last years as Queen of Sweden.
- ▣ In 1656, Christina launched an attempt to become Queen of Naples
- ▣ In another failed scheme, Christina attempted to have herself made Queen of Poland.
- ▣ After the death of her father, Christina became the queen-elect at the age of six. Christina was crowned queen in 1644,
- ▣ She opposed Oxenstierna and there was constant friction between them thereafter, in particular concerning the Thirty Years War.
- ▣ Although many significant powers opposed ending the war, Christina found it was necessary.
- ▣ She was the prime mover in concluding the Peace of Westphalia in 1648 and ending the war.

Queen Mary II



1662 –1694

- ❑ Reigned as Queen of Scotland, England and Ireland from 1689 to 1694
- ❑ Mary reigned jointly with her husband and first cousin, William III and II, who became the sole ruler of both countries upon her death in 1694. “William and Mary”
- ❑ She was very active in the Church of England, which she ruled as its Supreme Governor
- ❑ In 1690 Mary was empowered by Parliament to exercise rule during William's many absences abroad. This uncomfortable role demanded such unpleasant duties as signing the arrest for her uncle
- ❑ Her policies generally earned the thanks of her husband and both houses of parliament
- ❑ Died of small pox at age 32, 1694

ANNE OF AUSTRIA



1601–1666

- Queen Consort of France and Navarre and regent for her son King Louis XIV, 1615–1643
- Mother of King Louis XIV and Philippe I Duke of Orleans
- She took as her first minister the Italian-born Cardinal Jules Mazarin and was said to be secretly married to him
- Faced a series of revolts known as the Fronde

Queen Anne of England



1665 -1714

- ❑ Became Queen of England, Scotland and Ireland on 8 March 1702
- ❑ Anne's reign was marked by the development of a two-party system as the new era of parliamentary governance unfolded and matured. Anne personally preferred the Tory Party, but "endured" the Whigs.
- ❑ Almost as soon as she succeeded to the throne, Anne became embroiled in the War of the Spanish Succession.
- ❑ This war, in which England supported the claim of Archduke Charles to succeed to the Spanish Throne, would continue until the last years of Anne's reign, and would dominate both foreign and domestic policy.

Queen Anne of England



- ▣ Her rule was partitioned so much it resulted in her favorites usually getting so much space to direct politics that, though Anne remained queen, the government and its actions could change dramatically.
- ▣ She had consistency, she stood on her own rights and privileges.
- ▣ She was successful in for most of her reign having a mixed government of moderate Whigs and moderate Tories leaving the power and prestige of the crown intact as far as possible

WOMEN OF 1600 TO 1700
IN THE INTELLECTUAL
SOCIETY



Aphra Behn

- ▣ July 10, 1640 – April 16, 1689.
- ▣ She was the first professional female author, despite her illiterate family.
- ▣ She is considered “The mother of the English novel”.
- ▣ She wrote the first English anti-slavery novel “Oroonoko” and the first English epistolary novel “Love Letters between a Nobleman and his Sister”.
- ▣ She became so well known that when she died in 1689 she was buried in Westminster Abbey.

Catherine Cockburn Trotter

- ▣ August 16, 1679 – May 11, 1749
- ▣ Writer, Playwright & philosopher.
- ▣ She wrote five successful plays before she turned 17.
- ▣ One was based off Aphra Behn's novel "Agnes de Castro", which she wrote at age 14.
- ▣ Later she worked in philosophy where she wrote a defense of John Locke's "Essay Concerning Human Understanding", done at age 23.
- ▣ "The Works of Mrs. Catharine Cockburn, Theological, Moral, Dramatic, and Poetical" (1751)
It was a book containing all her works, published after her death by William Birch.

Elena Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia

- ▣ June 5, 1646 – July 26, 1684.
- ▣ She was the first woman to obtain a doctorate at Padua University at age 32. She got her doctorate in philosophy.
- ▣ She spoke many languages & played 4 instruments.
- ▣ She also received the Doctor's Ring, the Teacher's Ermine cape, and the Poet's Laurel Crown.
- ▣ She originally set out for her Doctrine to be in theology but the church denied it, but with her father insistence she tried again, and they let her get a doctorate in philosophy instead.
- ▣ After her no other women earned a Doctorate Degree from Padua until the 20th century.



Women's Economic Roles

Women's Jobs

- For the most part, women remained homemakers.
- Their primary goal was to reproduce and raise the children. This included, at least among Protestant families, the teaching on religion in the home.
- However, there were some women who began to break the mold and pursue previously unattainable jobs. While some jobs had always been available to women, some new ones were becoming prominent.



Nun

- ❑ Nunneries had, for centuries, existed, and they served many purposes.
- ❑ They were one place where women could unabashedly pursue an education.
- ❑ They could be used as a method of escape, as a refuge, or as a place where women could be stored away if something tarnished their reputation.
- ❑ Maria Jesus Agreda (1602–1665) was a Spanish nun who was famous for converting Native Americans in the Southwest United States on the Mexican border.



Sister Maria Jesus Agreda (1602-1665) at repose in glass-lidded coffin, 1991
Photo by: Javier Sierra, published in Ana Cero Magazine 1993

Artist



- Sophonisba Anguissola (1532–1629) was an Italian portrait painter who was the first women artist to gain international renown for her work. Her work was compared to many of her male contemporaries.
- Mary Beale was an English painter of the same period. She became so successful and built up such a respected clientele that her husband quit his job in order to serve as her secretary!