**American Women in STEM: a History of Marginalized Achievement**

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Process Paper: 350 Words

Website: 1,200 Words

The process of choosing my theme or topic was not a particularly difficult one. As a young woman who comes from a long line of teachers and women in STEM fields, studying American History for the first time made me realize some voices were missing from the narrative. My chosen theme was “Marginalized Women in America.” Considering the experience American scientists had, I was intending on making my topic about the achievements women made regardless of these difficult experiences they had. I believe it to be historically significant as America’s achievements are at the center of U.S. history, and the role American women played is often forgotten about.

 I conducted my research by selecting the women that would prove how unrepresented and unjustly excluded female scientists have been in American History. After a thorough viewing of the National Women’s History Museum, I selected the women that represented the thousands of others that made America’s competitiveness in technology and innovation possible. My mission was to prove that while women were often forced to stay in the background due to limited opportunities, it did not stop them from taking on significant roles and doing meaningful work. After choosing Radia Perlman, Dr. Sally Ride, Grace Hopper, and Florence Gaynor I completed in-depth research on each woman, starting with their work and later their lives and the hardships they faced.

 My research led me to national archives, libraries, and newspapers. I chose primary sources depicting the significance of the inventions and secondary sources that helped me build an argument. After the completion of my bibliography and outline I formed my historical argument. My purpose was to argue that women were unrepresented and recognized for their achievements in the three fields I selected using the women's careers. I created my project by planning and writing out my exhibitions utilizing sections separated by the STEM field. I was able to include the appropriate images and primary sources. I built my website from scratch using the proper theme and fonts. Lastly, I finalized my project by doing a thorough revision of my content and format.