

FEMINIST THINKERS OR ACTIVISTS



Betty Friedan

Born on February 4, 1921 in Peoria, Illinois, United States, the American writer and activist wrote *The Feminine Mystique* in 1963, which is often credited with sparking the second wave of feminism that began in the 1960s and 1970. Friedan spent her life working to establish equality for women, helping to establish the National Women's Political Caucus and organizing the Women's Strike for Equality in 1970, which popularized the feminist movement across the United States.



Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Born March 15, 1933, Maimonides Medical Center, New York, United States. Before serving as a Supreme Court Justice, Bader Ginsburg co-founded the Women's Rights Law Reporter in 1970, the first US law magazine to focus exclusively on women's rights. Two years later, she co-founded the Women's Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), once again ensuring that women's voices were heard in law. Appointed by President Bill Clinton in 1993, Bader Ginsburg became the second female Supreme Court justice in history.



Oprah Winfrey

Born in Mississippi in 1954, into rural poverty years later. Motivated by the unequal pay she received at the start of her television career, Oprah set out to start her own television show and from there she built an empire to help women grow and develop. and thrive "I never considered or called myself a feminist, but I don't think you can really be a woman in this world and not be." Since then, she has developed the Oprah Winfrey Girls Leadership Academy, the Oprah Winfrey Network, and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2013.



Michelle Obama

Born in Chicago, January 17, 1964, in 2009, when her husband Barack Obama became the first black president of the United States, Michelle Obama also made history by becoming the country's first black First Lady and the only First Lady to attend an Ivy League university (Princeton) for his undergraduate studies. She made her mark on the White House with her Let Girls Learn initiative, which empowered girls around the world to gain better access to education. Even after her husband's presidency, she continues to champion the cause through the Girls Opportunity Alliance, a program within the Obama Foundation that supports grassroots leaders working on girls' education.

Series I: Choose 2 feminists or activists from the reading and write why you chose them? And what did she do to change or support feminism?



Series II: select the correct answer from the word bank and write your answer in the space provided.

Betty Friedan The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Oprah Winfrey
Let Girls Learn

1. Who was the American writer and activist who wrote *The Feminine Mystique* in 1963?

2. What was the project that Ruth Bader Ginsburg founded?

3. Which activist received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2013?

4. What was Michelle Obama's initiative that empowered girls around the world to get better access to education?