

## Emma Smith DeVoe

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Emma Smith DeVoe stood up for women's rights for her entire life. She fought for women's rights to vote in Dakota Territory, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

Emma Smith DeVoe was born in 1848 in Illinois and moved to Washington in 1905.

In Washington, Emma and her team tried many ways to convince people that women should vote. They tried bold tactics that everyone could see. They covered neighborhoods with posters. They organized a train trip, where they would give speeches at every stop. They also had big celebrations and events.

Washington gave women the right to vote in 1910. It was only the fifth state to give women the right to vote.

Next, Emma helped fight for women around the United States to get the right to vote. They won that right in 1920. Emma died in Tacoma, Washington in 1927 at age 79. The Tacoma News Tribune called her the Mother of Woman's Suffrage.



Emma Smith DeVoe. Image via Washington State Historical Society



Washington State History Museum Suffrage Curriculum  
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Footer images, left to right: "Woman forever march," Washington State Historical Society Catalog ID Number: 2010.151.4; "Woman's suffrage pin," Washington State Historical Society Catalog ID Number: C2008.0.132; "Votes for women: official organ of Washington Equal Suffrage Association," Washington State Historical Society Catalog ID Number 2000.104.38.14