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## Additional Resources

### Timeline of Major Events of the Women's Rights Movement, 1960s-1970s



Source: Warren K. Lefler

**1961** – The birth control pill (oral contraception) becomes legally available in the United States, allowing women to engage in sexual activity without fear of pregnancy. (The 1950s had seen the highest number of out-of-wedlock teen pregnancies in American history).

**1963** – Betty Friedan publishes *The Feminine Mystique*.

**1963** – Congress passes the Equal Pay Act, requiring employers to pay men and women the same wage for equivalent work.

**1964** – Congress passes Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, banning discrimination on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, or gender.

**1966** – The National Organization for Women, a lobbying group that fights for women's equality, is founded.

**1969** – Elite all-male colleges including Princeton and Yale begin admitting women.

**1970** – Thousands of women march in the Women's Strike for Equality on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage.

**1971** – The first edition of *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, a handbook on women's health and sexuality, was published by a feminist collective in Boston. A huge seller, it is still in print today.

**1971** – The feminist magazine *Ms.* publishes its first issue.

**1973** – The Supreme Court upholds a woman's right to an abortion in *Roe v. Wade*.

## Changing Women's Fashions

The pictures below highlight some of the changes in women's fashions between the mid 1950s (left) and early 1970s (right). How would you describe these changes? Why do you think they were happening? What kind of attitudes do the different styles reflect?



Source: [Vintageadbrowser.com](http://Vintageadbrowser.com)



Source: 1971 Sears Roebuck Catalog

## Other “Girl Group” Hits

During the late 1950s and early 1960s, numerous Girl Groups topped the charts with a wide range of hit singles. Most of these groups consisted of female vocalists backed by musicians not generally seen with them on stage. They typically did not write their own songs, though a number of emerging female songwriters -- including Carole King, Ellie Greenwich, Cynthia Weil, and Florence Greenberg -- did write or co-write some of the Girl Groups' biggest hits, including “Be My Baby” and three of the songs below. As you read the lyrics and listen to the songs below, think about what themes they emphasize and whose perspective they present. Also think about why these groups might have been referred to as “Girl Groups” and their performers as “girls.”

**The Exciters, "Tell Him" (1962)**  
(Bert Berns)

*Ever since the world began,  
it's been that way for man  
And women were created  
to make love their destiny  
Then why should true love  
be so complicated?  
Oh yeah!*

*I know something about love  
You gotta take his hand  
Show him what the world is made of  
One kiss will prove it  
If you want him to be always by your side  
Take his hand tonight, swallow your foolish pride*



**The Angels, "My Boyfriend's Back" (1963)**  
(Feldman/Goldstein/Gottehrer)



*He went away and you hung around  
And bothered me, every night  
And when I wouldn't go out with you  
You said things that weren't very nice*

*My boyfriend's back and you're gonna be in trouble  
(Hey la, hey la, my boyfriend's back)*

*You see him comin' better cut out on the double  
(Hey la, hey la, my boyfriend's back)*

*You been spreading lies that I was untrue  
(Hey la, hey la, my boyfriend's back)*

*So look out now cause he's comin' after you  
(Hey la, hey la, my boyfriend's back)  
Hey, he knows that you been tryin'  
And he knows that you been lyin'*

*You're gonna be sorry you were ever born  
(Hey la, hey la, my boyfriend's back)  
Cause he's kinda big and he's awful strong  
(Hey la, hey la, my boyfriend's back)  
Hey he knows I wasn't cheatin'  
Now you're gonna get a beatin'*

**The Chiffons, "One Fine Day" (1963)**  
(Gerry Goffin/Carole King)



*One fine day  
You'll look at me  
And then you'll know our love was meant to be  
One fine day  
You're gonna want me for your girl*

*The arms I long for  
Will open wide  
Then you'll be proud to have me right by your side  
One fine day  
You're gonna want me for your girl*

*Ooh, now I know you're kind of a boy  
Who only wants to run alone  
I'll keep waiting  
And some day, darling  
You'll come to me when you want to settle down*

**The Dixie Cups, "Chapel of Love" (1964)**  
(Jeff Barry/Elle Greenwich/Phil Spector)

*Goin' to the chapel  
And we're gonna get married  
Goin' to the chapel  
And we're gonna get married  
Gee, I really love you  
And we're gonna get married  
Goin' to the chapel of love*

*Bells will ring, the sun will shine, whoa-oh-oh  
I'll be his and he'll be mine  
We'll love until the end of time  
And we'll never be lonely anymore  
Because we're goin' to the chapel  
And we're gonna get married*

