1. I learned about the ideas of women's moral superiority held by some Suffragettes like Farnham and Nichols.[1] Some suffragettes believed that the concept was harmful to the cause and that arguing to be equal to men was better for the cause. "Duniway disagreed with the eastern movement's increasing embrace of the rationale for suffrage based on women's moral superiority."[2] Some men feared that women would try to expand temperance principles to them. Interestingly, the themes related to "Emotional intelligence" echo today in modern feminism and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion) programs. Some would echo the sentiment that women are superior in modern times. Although the idea is generally that women complement the skills of men, some go as far as to suggest absolute superiority. Without saying it's wrong or right, I would caution to not to rework old, discredited ideas or venture to make such claims with no scientific backing.

2. Moving West challenges the roles of women. Despite all the efforts to uphold Victorian domesticity principles, women soon needed to take on different roles usually reserved for men. "Like most women on the trail, Cummins gradually developed a more flexible, western improvisation on her traditional domestic role."[3] Women like Ellen Smith soon had no choice but to take charge.[4] Many used their previously reserved skills for their husband and household to survive and earn some wealth.[5]

3. If one were to break down the road to suffrage into steps:

    a. Necessity led women to take on new roles.
    b. New roles led to women wanting and needing ownership of land and wealth. Primarily to take care of themselves and their children if their husband died, left,

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[1] Gallagher, Winifred. "Three: 'Woman's Rights.'" Essay. In *New Women in the Old West: From Settlers to Suffragists, an Untold American Story*, 44. Penguin Books, 2022.
[2] Gallagher, Winifred. "Three: 'Woman's Rights.'" Essay. In *New Women in the Old West: From Settlers to Suffragists, an Untold American Story*, 67. Penguin Books, 2022.

[3] Gallagher, Winifred. "One: Home on the Range." Essay. In *New Women in the Old West: From Settlers to Suffragists, an Untold American Story*, 4. Penguin Books, 2022.

[4] Gallagher, Winifred. "One: Home on the Range." Essay. In *New Women in the Old West: From Settlers to Suffragists, an Untold American Story*, 7. Penguin Books, 2022.

[5] Gallagher, Winifred. "One: Home on the Range." Essay. In *New Women in the Old West: From Settlers to Suffragists, an Untold American Story*, 14-19. Penguin Books, 2022.

or was abusive. “Nichols became politicized after a painful personal experience made clear her lack of economic and political rights.”[6]

c. Laws motivated by the moral duty to allow women to carry on alone created women taxpayers, invoking the founding principle that taxation without representation is tyranny. “Representative Curtis J. Hillyer persuaded the Nevada territorial legislature that women should vote because they were at least as smart as men, paid the same taxes, and would clean up politics…”[7]
d. Ultimately, women received suffrage by convincing male legislatures of their equal ability and citizenship.

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[6] Gallagher, Winifred. “Three: ‘Woman’s Rights.’” Essay. In *New Women in the Old West: From Settlers to Suffragists, an Untold American Story*, 39. Penguin Books, 2022.

[7] Gallagher, Winifred. “Four: ‘Wyoming Makes History.’” Essay. In *New Women in the Old West: From Settlers to Suffragists, an Untold American Story*, 58. Penguin Books, 2022.



Figure 1 A romanticized western cowgirl by Paul A. Lanquist