

A few different reasons inspired me to research Margaret Sanger's impact on birth control. First, I felt that Birth Control is very relevant in today's society so I wanted to learn more about what it's done for us. Secondly, birth control has become controversial because politicians have made it political. I wanted to prove that it's important for women to have a choice (in all birth control) because it gives them more opportunities.

I started by researching Margaret Sanger. I used many different sources; books from the library, videos, news articles, letters, and websites. There is a lot of research regarding this time as it was the beginning of the Women's Suffrage Movement, however because birth control is a controversial topic today, I stumbled upon a lot of biased information.

Soon I found sources written by Planned Parenthood and credible professors. I found a lot of good information in the Planned Parenthood PDFs, which was the organization Margaret Sanger established. The PDFs had a lot of self-conducted data and images I could use for my website.

I chose to do a website because I wanted a challenge that could creatively convey my information to viewers. I had seen other examples of NHD websites, and even with my narrow website knowledge, I wanted to take the category on. I like art and I felt I could use that as a strength on my website.

When I saw the theme for this year's NHD project, I was a bit stumped. I knew I wanted something controversial and relevant to today's society. When I thought about "breaking barriers" I remembered a story I heard as a child about a ninety-year-old woman who expressed that the biggest change and opportunity she saw within her lifetime was the access to birth control. This made me realize the birth control broke down barriers for her. Before women had access to birth control, they were restrained from taking opportunities for fear of getting pregnant.

Margaret Sanger secured access to birth control which allowed women to decide their own future. Women began breaking barriers in society, their careers, and education. Women's enrollment in universities increased immensely and today, the number of women providing for their family rather than their husbands has risen. Birth control liberated women.

I wanted my thesis statement to include Margaret Sanger because she was the woman who led the Birth Control Movement. I also wanted it to include the past and future, how it has affected our society.

Creating a website took some perseverance but through working on it I learned to think like a historian and stay resilient in diving deeper until I felt the information that backed up my thesis statement. Learning about Margaret Sanger and her work to give women access to birth control was inspiring. I enjoyed the research put into this project because it opened my eyes to

the history of birth control, and the courage women had in order to secure the rights I have today.