

WGS. 101 INTRO TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES FALL 2014
SESSION #2- IN-CLASS WRITING

Name _____

WRITE FOR ABOUT FIVE MINUTES. USE BULLET POINTS TO INCLUDE AS MANY IDEAS AS YOU CAN.

EXPLAINING THE EMERGENCE OF MOVEMENTS FOR GENDER EQUALITY

The emergence of a social movement, such as the U.S. women's rights movement, is often a puzzle for historians and social scientists to explain.

While a specific form of social inequality may have a very lengthy history and some **individuals** may challenge, resist or transcend their secondary status, it is at specific moments in time that groups of people perceive a specific inequality as a injustice or oppression and **collectively** begin to form **movements for social change**.

Why do social movements for women's and gender equality/empowerment emerge (as the **first wave** of the American women's rights movement did in 1848 or the **second wave** did in the mid 1960s)? What are some of the social/historical (and individual) experiences/factors that motivate people to form and join women's rights/gender equality movements? Try to name at least FIVE such experiences or factors.

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

WGS.101 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
Fall 2014

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.