

Mary Wollstonecraft: 'Britain's first feminist'

1792: A Vindication of the Rights of Woman – video transcript

[Amanda Vickery]

Barbara Taylor is Mary Wollstonecraft's biographer.

What concrete things is Wollstonecraft calling for in terms of women's rights?

[Professor Barbara Taylor]

She wants women to be educated on equal terms with men and she lays out a programme for the education of girl children on the same terms as boy children.

She suggests that women should have equal representation in Parliament. She certainly wants women to be seen as equal citizens in law.

She wishes to overturn the oppression of women. She wishes to see women as absolute equals as men.

She is the first woman to put the idea of women's rights on the political map.

Clip from Suffragettes Forever! The Story of Women and Power, BBC Two