



Name _____

Class Period _____

Date _____

Beyond the Sources • *Julia B. Nelson*

Using the information you gather on the web site, answer the following questions about the unit.

1. Nelson argued for municipal suffrage for women in her “Points on Municipal Suffrage” flyer. Often the arguments in favor of something tell us a great deal about the arguments against something. What can Nelson’s arguments for suffrage teach us about the arguments used against women’s suffrage?

How can that information help us as historians to focus our research about a controversial issue?

2. One of the articles about Nelson appeared in the “Local News” section of the newspaper. This section was designed to have short descriptions of local events or activities by people in the community. What might we be able to learn about a community from reading one of these sections of the newspaper?

How do you think information may have been gathered for these articles?

How reliable does that make the section as research tool and why?

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3. When high school seniors have their photographs taken today, it is often with items that have some significance in their lives at the time: a special pet, sports jersey, or musical instrument. Julia Nelson's photograph on this site shows her with a newspaper and a white ribbon on her lapel. From what you know about Nelson, what other items do you think could have been included in the photograph to tell us more about her interests and her priorities?

As a researcher, how is our research made easier when photographs contain items of significance to the person photographed?

How can we tell that an item is important to the person and not just a prop used by the photographer?

4. We know that Julia Nelson did a great deal of work for certain causes because we have references to her speeches and her writings about those causes. What information might we be able to find about someone else's civic work if we are researching them?

How could those items help us find more information about the person's life?
