

Jean Chen
BUS 311 - 1900

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Professor Brielle Buckler

Unit 1: Equal Opportunity & The Law

Throughout the mid 1900s it was deemed as societal standards that a woman to be a stay at home mother with the children, cook, clean and prepare for the husband's arrival- a woman's sole purpose was to serve in a "Man's World". The film, *On the Basis of Sex*, based in the 1960s, gave a visual of the protagonist Ruth Ginsberg combatting and breaking the societal norms against gender discrimination.

The path leading up to Ruth Ginsberg being hailed as a "feminist hero" was not without hindrance... Ruth faced rejection from her large male populated peers at Harvard Law School. When Ruth's Dean at Harvard denied her request to complete her degree long-distance, while giving the very same opportunity to countless men, she transferred to Columbia University. Even graduating at the top of her class didn't repel the sexist men in the law field. And to make matters worse no New York firm would hire her- hire a woman, period. Ruth Ginsberg's perseverance to fight for equal rights resulted in the putting down the first step of a long overdue reform.

In more than half a decades of time, the U.S has made great progressive strides in society however still far from the finish line. Post 2016's historical #MeToo movement, the topic of sexual harassment and rape has been talked about more than ever. At this time there is still not enough support from the justice system for women. Another point worth mentioning is, the ratio between men and

women CEOs is evening out as there are more and more women entrepreneurs however it remains a lack in representation of women holding high positions. (Ie. in the government- most of the congressmen are *men*) Ruth Ginsberg, through actions, showed that women are in fact “allowed” to have their own aspirations and career goals *while* still being a wife and a mother.