



# Attitudes About Electing a Woman

Americans have grown more comfortable with the idea of putting a woman in the White House

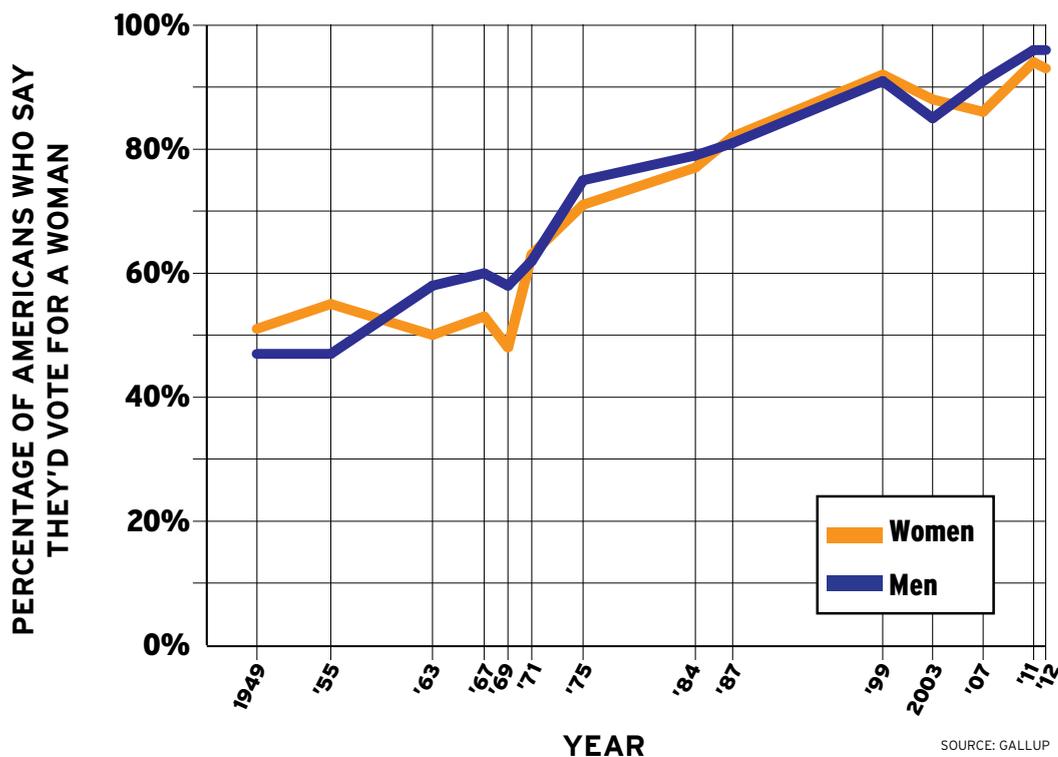
In 1937, Gallup asked approximately 1,500 adults whether they would vote for a woman for president if she were qualified "in every other respect." Sixty-four percent of Americans said no. In other words, being a woman was a deal-breaker.

By 1945, Gallup had changed the question's wording: "If the party whose candidate you most often

support nominated a woman for president of the United States, would you vote for her if she seemed best qualified for the job?" That year, more than half of Americans (55 percent) said they would not vote for a woman.

In the years since, support for putting a woman in the White House has grown gradually but steadily.

## Supporting a Woman for President



### Questions

1. In which decade did attitudes about voting for a woman change the most?
2. What do you notice about men's willingness to vote for a woman versus women's? Does that surprise you? Explain.
3. The women's movement and the fight for equal rights became a significant force in American society in the 1970s. How might that movement have affected attitudes about electing a woman to the presidency?