Women Take to the Field

Ainsley Carter
Junior Division
Individual Exhibit
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Process Paper:
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Process Paper

I chose my topic because I was inspired by a video I saw at a DePaul women's basketball game, which celebrated the 50th anniversary of Title IX, legislation that allowed women to have equal funding for sports and education. This got me interested in what impact the passing of this legislation had on women's sports, so I chose it for my history fair project. This topic relates to the annual theme because there was a lot of debate surrounding whether or not the passing of Title IX would cause society to fall apart, as many people believed this would happen when women were given more opportunities outside of the home. The diplomatic agreement that is Title IX gave them more opportunities to pursue higher education and join teams.

I conducted my research by first looking at the National Center for Education Statistics to find evidence to support my claims that Title IX positively impacted the schooling system. I looked at the New York Times archives for old newspapers from the time that Title IX was being passed. If these sources were secondary, I looked at the sources that they used to research the topic in order to find more sources. I also conducted web searches to learn about people's experiences with Title IX and how they were impacted by the passing of this legislation. I visited several online reference libraries to receive more information.

To create my project, I received a poster board from my school and then went to the DePaul library and printed out all the photos and information that I was going to put on my board. I arranged it, covered the board in paper, and then pasted the information and images onto my board.

My historical argument is that the debate surrounding the passage of Title IX legislation diplomatically used sports to improve schooling systems, increasing the number of women who pursue higher education, decreasing the high school dropout rate, and raising the number of female high school athletes.

This topic is historically significant because women's rights were and still are a very big deal, as they were constantly discriminated against and told that they had a place, which was in the house, cooking, cleaning, and taking care of the children. So the fact that women were given this right that prevents sex-based discrimination in schools and government-funded organizations, was a very big deal. This led to women having more opportunities in school, sports, and careers.