**STORMING OF THE BASTILLE**

**Beginning of a Revolution**

* July 14, 1789
* people were angry when King Louis XVI refused to accept the Tennis Court Oath
* 8,000 Parisian took to the streets of Paris
* Bastille was old state prison which also housed ammunition
* Guarding troops fired into the crowd killing 98 people
* Remaining people stormed the fortress, killing the troops and took remaining ammunition

**Why was this event important?**

* Revolutionaries gained a symbolic victory over the Old Regime
* Showed they were a force to be reckoned with
* Word of success cause more riots throughout the country
* National Guard was formed under the Marquis de Lafayette

**The Destruction of the Old Society**

* **Feudalism**
  + August 4, 1789 National Assembly voted to end the rights of landlords
  + Financial privileges of both nobles and clergy are taken away
* **Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen**
  + proclaimed freedom and equal rights for every man
    - access to public office based on talent
    - ended tax exemptions
  + promoted freedom of speech and of the press

**…AND WOMEN?**

**What about the women?**

* Rights were not extended
* **Olympe de Gouges**
  + Wrote Declaration of the Rights of Women and the Female Citizen
  + Wrote many plays and pamphlets but was ignored by national assembly
* October 5, 1789
  + **Paris women march on Versailles**
  + Came to discuss the high price of bread and the starvation because of it
  + Were armed with everything from broomsticks, lances pitchforks, swards, pistols, to muskets
  + Forced the King to accept the new decrees

**New Constitution**

* Completed in 1791
* Officially set up a limited monarchy
* Legislature consisting of 745 members would make the laws
* All male citizens had the same rights but only men over 25 who paid a specific amount in taxes could vote

**Catholic Church**

* Church lands were taken away and sold for the debt
* Clergy was to be elected by the people and paid by the state



**The Storming of the Bastille and the Role of Women**