

A Journalist whom I admire

Why Gloria Steinem is an inspiration in my life

By Rubyclare Moore

Gloria Steinem is a fairly well-known name, with plenty of adaptations about her life. However, I hope that I can tell you just a little bit more about Steinem and why I admire her so dearly. Growing up I knew the name “Gloria Steinem” however, it wasn’t until eighth grade that I really knew her. I was in English class and we were doing research on women throughout time for Women’s History Month; we picked names out of a hat and I got Steinem. In my research, I found out about her advocacy for women, all her journalistic engagements and her work with the Feminist Movement in the 1960s and 1970s. I grew to love Steinem and have worked hard to advocate for people the way that she has.

Who is Gloria Steinem?

[Steinem](#) worked her way to the top of the Feminist Movement by actively writing about and speaking on the injustice women face in the world. Her actions in public and private activism lead to a shift in society’s way of thinking. The brute of her work as an activist and as a journalist was focused on the Women’s Rights Movements. Some of her most notable accomplishments were her article on the Playboy Bunny’s, helping set up New York Magazine, the creation of Ms. Magazine and much more. Steinem did not start in the Feminist Movement but after finding her voice as a political journalist she was able to focus her time on helping women gain the same rights as their male counterparts. Steinem has lived a very productive life as a journalist carrying on the profession for the majority of her life. She has been greatly awarded for her journalistic abilities as well as her activism.



Figure 1- Steinem Speaking at a Feminist Movement in the 1960's

Sharing her voice in a man’s world



Figure 2- Steinem speaking at the Women's March in 2017

One of the pieces that stands out in Steinem’s early journalist career is the article where she exposed the [playboy clubs](#) around the city. She worked to expose the sexist, disgusting undertones of what seemed to be a glamorous boys club. Steinem went undercover as a “bunny” in the club and took notes on all of the harsh conditions the women working in the establishment faced. Though this piece helped expose the horrid ways that women were treated the journalist industry was so male-dominated it did not help Steinem’s career in the way she had hoped. Eventually, however, she helped start “New York Magazine”, where she was able to learn about the political world finding her niche, thriving as both a political journalist and an activist. Steinem wrote many pieces on political campaigns but sought after more social issues, such as the Feminist Movement.

Standing up for her beliefs

After making a name for herself in the journalist world, Steinem used her journalistic power to help advocate for the Feminist Movement. Steinem wrote a piece in 1969 called “[After Black Power, Women’s Liberation](#)”, speaking on the issue of how women are seen by society, as well as trying to prove that a women’s movement would be good for everyone. In addition to the creation of New York Magazine, Steinem also helped create [Ms. Magazine in 1972](#). The magazine was a comment on the fact that other women-directed magazines only talked about taking care of family and the home. While Ms. Magazine published well-thought-out pieces that would be informational for its viewers. Though the magazine has been criticized for its lack of diverse feminism. Steinem has not stopped her activism and has even worked to correct her mistake in not amplifying diverse voices enough. She spoke out in an interview about how important [women of color are to feminist activism](#), also mentioning how they’ve received little recognition for their work throughout the movement.

Standing up for people is a big deal for me. I think that I should work to use my privilege to help amplify people's voices who may not typically be heard. Steinem and I share aspects of this trait. Even today at the age of 87 Steinem is fighting for Women’s Rights. She constantly [posts on Twitter](#) activist advice and points of view on issues that face women. This past week Texas passed the “[Heartbeat Bill](#)” which, in its simplest terms, means that any person looking to get an abortion would need to do so before the six-week mark of pregnancy or it is illegal. On a personal note, I think that this bill is outrageously insensitive and a disgusting way for the government to control women’s bodies. Steinem, though she doesn’t live in Texas, has gone to social media to argue how outrageous it is as well. This constant activism makes me admire Steinem relentlessly. The way that she has kept up an appearance in the world as someone who will fight for Women’s Rights to the very end is an amazing quality that I respect wholeheartedly.

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About Rubyclare Moore:

Rubyclare Moore is a student at the University of North Texas double majoring in public relations Journalism and Sociology. She has a love for social justice and nature conservation both of which will help her in law school, studying Social Justice law, so that she may work for a nonprofit in the future.



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