

# Chapter 13

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Divided by the Ballot Box:

 The Montreal Council of Women and the 1917 Election   
Tarah Brookfield

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## Questions for Critical Reading

1. How did the war expose the differences between egalitarian and maternal feminists? Did these differences help or hinder women?
2. How did French-Canadian nationalism and struggles over race, religion, and class impede first-wave feminism?
3. Does Brookfield create a more nuanced and complex understanding of first-wave feminism?
4. How was the image of motherhood used to appeal to women voters during the First World War? Why was this strategy chosen?

## Multimedia Resources

- “National Council of Women of Canada Fonds.” Textual documents. 1893-1990.  
[http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=97640&rec\\_nbr\\_list=97640](http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=97640&rec_nbr_list=97640)
- “Portrait of Sir Robert Laird Borden.” Orpen, William. Painting. 1919.  
[http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=2837276&rec\\_nbr\\_list=2837276](http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2837276&rec_nbr_list=2837276)
- “24<sup>th</sup> Battalion on one of its Farewell Marches through the Streets of Montreal.” Photograph. 1914-1919.  
[http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=3522762&rec\\_nbr\\_list=3522762](http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3522762&rec_nbr_list=3522762)
- “Canada’s Most Famous Military Parade.” Photograph. 1915.  
[http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=3362103&rec\\_nbr\\_list=3362103](http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3362103&rec_nbr_list=3362103)
- “Red Cross Second War Fund, the Greatest Mother in the World.” Print. 1914-1918.  
[http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=3667635&rec\\_nbr\\_list=3667635](http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3667635&rec_nbr_list=3667635)

- “The Canadian Mother, Vote Union Government.” Print. 1914-1918.  
[http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=3667273&rec\\_nbr\\_list=3667273](http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3667273&rec_nbr_list=3667273)
- “Enlist, Drowned Mother and Child.” Spear, Fred. Print. 1914-1918.  
[http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=3667923&rec\\_nbr\\_list=3667923](http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3667923&rec_nbr_list=3667923)
- “Your Job is Not Finished Until you put Him Back in his Mother’s Arms!” Print. 1914-1918.  
[http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=3667465&rec\\_nbr\\_list=3667465](http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3667465&rec_nbr_list=3667465)
- “Canadian Hospital in Orpington During Election.” Photograph. 1917.  
[http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=3241267&rec\\_nbr\\_list=3241267](http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3241267&rec_nbr_list=3241267)
- “1917 Election Leaflets.” Textual Document. 1917.  
[http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=4168334&rec\\_nbr\\_list=4168334](http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=4168334&rec_nbr_list=4168334)
- “Nursing Sisters at a Canadian Hospital Voting in the Canadian Federal Election.” Rider-Rider, William. Photograph. 1917.  
[http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=3194224&rec\\_nbr\\_list=3194224](http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3194224&rec_nbr_list=3194224)
- “Enfranchised Women, Vote Union Save Canada!” Textual Document. 1917.  
[http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam\\_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=165575&rec\\_nbr\\_list=165575](http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=165575&rec_nbr_list=165575)

## Multimedia Resources

- *And We Knew How to Dance: Women in World War I* (1994) Description found at:  
<http://www.onf-nfb.gc.ca/eng/collection/film/?id=30424>
- A City Goes to War  
<http://acitygoestowar.ca>
- Canadian War Museum – Conscription  
[www.warmuseum.ca/firstworldwar/history/life-at-home-during-the-war/recruitment-and-conscription/conscription-1917](http://www.warmuseum.ca/firstworldwar/history/life-at-home-during-the-war/recruitment-and-conscription/conscription-1917)
- Canadian Posters from the First World War  
<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/explore/online/posters/recruitment.aspx>

- 1917: Campaign Images  
[www.cpac.ca/en/1917-campaign-images/](http://www.cpac.ca/en/1917-campaign-images/)