

# The Paradox of Gender Equality

How American Women's Groups Gained and Lost Their Public Voice  
New Edition, with a New Preface

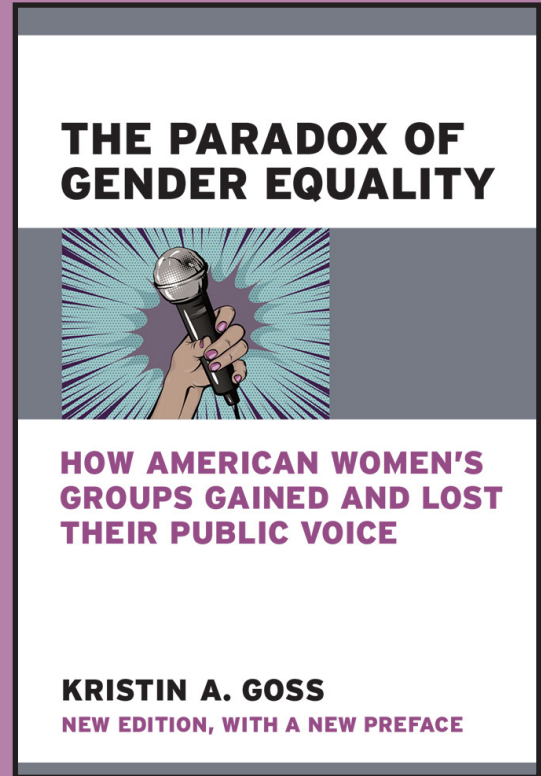
Kristin A. Goss examines how women's civic place has changed over the span of more than 120 years, how public policy has driven these changes, and why these changes matter for women and American democracy. As measured by women's groups' appearances before the U.S. Congress, women's collective political engagement continued to grow between 1920 and 1960—when many conventional accounts claim it declined—and declined after 1980, when it might have been expected to grow.

Goss asks what women have gained, and perhaps lost, through expanded incorporation, as well as whether single-sex organizations continue to matter in 21st-century America.

**Kristin A. Goss** is Kevin D. Gorter Professor of Public Policy and Political Science in the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University.

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