## **TÓTH ZSÓFIA**

Amerikanisztika MA, 1. félév Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem Bölcsészettudományi Kar

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## WHOSE BODY, WHOSE VOICE? THE CENTURY-LONG STRUGGLE FOR WOMEN'S AUTONOMY FROM SUFFRAGE TO ABORTION RIGHTS IN THE US

Kulcsszavak: feminista mozgalmak, emberi jogok, nők autonómiája, választójog

This paper aims to explore the historical trajectory of the struggle for women's autonomy, from the American suffrage movement to contemporary battles for reproductive rights. Its focus lies on Alice Paul's militant tactics, which employed radical methods—such as silent protests, hunger strikes, and elaborate parades—to secure the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, granting women the right to vote. The study draws parallels between this early feminist activism and modern movements for reproductive rights, illustrating how militant strategies have evolved to adapt to societal changes and technological advancements.

It examines the shift in women's protests from silence to vocal expression, as seen in movements like the "Women's March" and "Shout Your Abortion," where personal storytelling and social media have become central tools for shaping public consciousness. The paper highlights how these tactical innovations build on Alice Paul's legacy while leveraging the opportunities offered by digitalization. Although the effectiveness of militant approaches remains a subject of debate, the study underscores their continued importance in advancing women's autonomy through protest and advocacy.