



Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX: The Law That Changed the Future of Girls in America

By Karen Blumenthal

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Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX: The Law That Changed the Future of Girls in America By Karen Blumenthal

Can girls play softball? Can girls be school crossing guards? Can girls play basketball or ice hockey or soccer? Can girls become lawyers or doctors or engineers?

Of course they can...

today. But just a few decades ago, opportunities for girls were far more limited, not because they weren't capable of playing or didn't want to become doctors or lawyers, but because they weren't allowed to. Then quietly, in 1972, something momentous happened: Congress passed a law called "Title IX," forever changing the lives of American girls.

Hundreds of determined lawmakers, teachers, parents, and athletes carefully plotted to ensure that the law was passed, protected, and enforced. Time and time again, they were pushed back by fierce opposition. But as a result of their perseverance, millions of American girls can now play sports. Young women make up half of the nation's medical and law students, and star on the best basketball, soccer, and softball teams in the world. This small law made a huge difference.

From the Sibert Honor-winning author of *Six Days in October* comes this powerful tale of courage and persistence, the stories of the people who believed that girls could do anything -- and were willing to fight to prove it.

A Junior Library Guild Selection

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Starred Review. Grade 7 Up -A fascinating look at the birth, growth, stagnation, and final emergence of Title IX. While acknowledging the controversy surrounding this law, the author is unwaveringly supportive of its passage and implementation. Interesting and easy-to-follow chapters highlight the process of creating, revising, fighting for, and ultimately passing this legislation that gave girls and women equal access to physical-education classes, gymnasiums, universities, and graduate schools. Human-interest stories personalize the issues, and photographs of congresswomen fighting for equal opportunities for girls, women demonstrating, and the ultimate victory-a woman on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*-show how challenging, yet ultimately rewarding, the battle has been. Charts depict amazing statistics about the increase in athletic participation by females from 1970 to 2001. Cartoons show the humorous but painfully true attitudes of our culture toward women as they have strived to achieve equality in this country. The book closes with a "Then and Now" section highlighting the changes Title IX has brought about. Lynn M. Messina's *Sports in America* (H. W. Wilson, 2001) and Victoria Sherrow's *Encyclopedia of Women and Sports* (ABC-CLIO, 1996) both offer bits of information, but nothing out there comes close to Blumenthal's portrait of the emergence of women athletes in our society.-Julie Webb, Shelby County High School, Shelbyville, KY

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 6-9. As in *Six Days in October* (2002), a compelling overview of the 1929 stock market crash and a financial primer, *Wall Street Journal* editor Blumenthal uses specific facts and fascinating personal stories to give readers a wide view of history. Here, the author looks at American women's evolving rights by focusing on the history and future of Title IX, which bans sex discrimination in U.S. education. Profiles of groundbreaking female athletes and legislators deftly alternate with highlights of the women's movement, from the early twentieth century through today. The dull paper stock diminishes the many black-and-white photos, but the images are still gripping, and relevant political cartoons and fact boxes add further interest. Few books cover the last few decades of American women's history with such clarity and detail, and this comprehensive title draws attention to the hard-won battles, the struggles that remain, and the chilling possibility that rights, if not fiercely protected, can easily be lost. Gillian Engberg

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About the Author

Karen Blumenthal is the author of *Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX: The Law That Changed the Future of Girls in America*; and *Six Days in October: The Stock Market Crash of 1929*, a 2003 Sibert Honor Book. A veteran *Wall Street Journal* editor and reporter and a die-hard sports fan, she lives with her husband and two daughters in Dallas, Texas.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Debbie Jones:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children right up until adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important usually. The book Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX: The Law That Changed the Future of Girls in America had been making you to know about other know-how and of course you can take more information. It is quite advantages for you. The guide Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX:

The Law That Changed the Future of Girls in America is not only giving you far more new information but also to get your friend when you experience bored. You can spend your spend time to read your publication. Try to make relationship together with the book Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX: The Law That Changed the Future of Girls in America. You never feel lose out for everything in case you read some books.

Enrique Hayes:

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John Lambeth:

This Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX: The Law That Changed the Future of Girls in America is fresh way for you who has intense curiosity to look for some information since it relief your hunger details. Getting deeper you on it getting knowledge more you know or you who still having little digest in reading this Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX: The Law That Changed the Future of Girls in America can be the light food to suit your needs because the information inside this book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books build itself in the form which is reachable by anyone, yes I mean in the e-book web form. People who think that in e-book form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this publication is the answer. So there is absolutely no in reading a publication especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for you actually. So , don't miss that! Just read this e-book sort for your better life and also knowledge.

Lee Witherspoon:

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