

Kathrine Switzer: Breaking Barrier for Equality

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Individual Website

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Process Paper

I have always been fascinated with women's rights and I wanted a topic that forever changed society. Which led me to find a few interesting articles on Kathrine Switzer's story and how she forever changed women's marathons by being the first woman to run the Boston Marathon officially. I later realised it wasn't that easy as she faced many barriers along the way. After looking further into the topic, I found out why women couldn't run. I was shocked. As it turns out women were believed to be too delicate to do any physical activity and mostly just stayed home and cooked. The other thing that surprised me was how long that barrier for women lasted. After finding this out I felt obligated to share Katherine's story and change society's opinion on women in order to get even closer to equality.

I began my research about Kathrine Switzer running the Boston Marathon. As I went on I found some books written by Kathrine along with interviews. In Katherine's book she told her whole life story which helped me a lot. Also, I found pictures of Kathrine and local newspapers. As I got my information I got more and more curious and I kept searching for more sources on her and some background information. I even

found out that Kathrine wasn't the first woman to run the marathon. Roberta Gibbs ran the marathon a year before Kathrine all the way to 1968 but she always ran unofficially. Even though Roberta ran it first I believe Kathrine changed women's sports for the long run.

I chose a website for a couple of reasons. One of which I wanted to try it out since I had never made a website before and it was new to me. I also learned a lot about making a website like how to upload images and link pages. Once I got the website figured out I also helped others who were confused with the process. I wanted my website to be organized and I wanted it to look good. So I used a light color for the background and I had black text. After I checked everything over and made my finishing touches I ended up really liking it.

I chose Kathrine since she broke many barriers throughout her life. Such as when she first ran the marathon since at the beginning of the marathon a race official tried to stop her, but she broke that barrier by running non-stop to the finish line and even with many bringing her down she became the first woman to run the Boston marathon officially. Kathrine also changed how women were viewed in society after she ran by showing people that women were capable which I believe broke a big gender and equality barrier for women all over the world. Kathrine continues breaking barriers throughout her life running the Boston Marathon again for the 50th anniversary in 2017 and being a hero for many females today.

