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## A Vindication of the Rights of Woman

*Mary Wollstonecraft (1759 – 1797)*

Read by: Multiple readers                      Language: English  
 Length: 10 hours and 5 minutes              Style: Collaborative  
 Genre(s): Non-Fiction, Social Sciences,  
 Women's Studies

Product Formats and Options				
Format	Package	Catalog	EAN/UPC	MSLP
MP3 CD	DVD case	DB-1312	0686175924039	\$11.99
MP3 CD	CD jacket	CJ-1312	0686175924046	\$11.99
MP3 CD	Security sleeve	CD-1312	NA	\$5.99
MP3 download	Zip file	DL-1312	NA	\$4.99

In 1792 Mary Wollstonecraft published *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, in which she made the case for girls receiving the same education as boys. She illuminates her reasoning by shedding light on the undeniable fact that women raise the children, and an educated mother means smarter children, this benefiting a stronger society. Her claims for women's rights were stated in moral terms as imperative if civilization is to continue. Her ideas were quite popular until aspects of her personal history came out in an autobiography published after her death at 39. This essay continued to influence and become the foundation for all the women's movements that have evolved over the last two hundred years.

Considered without question the mother of the feminist movement, **Mary Wollstonecraft** (April 27, 1759 - September 10, 1797) managed in her 39 years to write not only *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, which was not popular until long after her death, but travel essays, several novels; and her letters from Paris during the French revolution reveal the harrowing experiences of the "reign of terror" when the Jacobins came into power. Devoted to her family as a young girl, she would sleep in front of her mother's door to keep her father from beating her when he came home drunk. She later had a child out of wedlock and love affairs that her husband William Godwin wrote about after her death, which tainted her reputation at the time but years later, during the modern suffrage movement, became part of her story as a heroine. She coined the word "patriarchal" in describing the institution of marriage and the legal system that supported it. She married William Godwin, a philosopher and writer of the essay "Political Justice," with whom she was in agreement on social issues. The relationship was a happy one, though short. She died in 1797 of septicemia eleven days after giving birth to a baby girl. The girl would grow up to become Mary Shelley, the author of the novel "Frankenstein."