

**Letter: Angelina Grimké to Sarah Grimké**

**Angelina Grimké was a lecturer for the American Anti-Slavery Society and believed that women had a duty to speak publicly against slavery. She and her sister Sarah, daughters of a wealthy South Carolina slaverholder, had converted to Quakerism and moved North. In Poughkeepsie, in March 1837, Angelina Grimké became the first white woman in the United States to speak on a political topic to an audience of both men and women. Her work was a crucial factor in the emergence of women's rights activism within antislavery ranks.**

**Angelina Grimké to Sarah Grimké, 3 April 1837**

**We spent yesterday week in Poughkeepsie & brother (Gerritt) Smith & ourselves had a meeting with the colored people in the evening. About 300 attended, & it was a very satisfactory meeting I believe to all parties & for the first time in my life I spoke in a promiscuous assembly, but I found that the men were no more to me than, than the women. Some of the females present were very desirous we should hold a meeting with the ladies, & we would gladly have done so, had we not expected to leave town early the next morning.**