Women’s Stories
100 years of Queensland women’s right to vote

Leontine Cooper (1837-1903)

- journalist and short-story writer
- president, Woman’s Franchise League
- editor, ‘Star’ (Queensland’s only women’s suffrage newspaper)

Leontine Cooper led a breakaway group from the Woman’s Equal Franchise Association in 1889. It was known as the Queensland Woman’s Suffrage League. Leontine responded strongly to those opposed to giving women the vote:

“In supporting as you are doing the contention that all women of Queensland should be kept disenfranchised because all are not asking for a privilege of which they know neither the value nor the need, you are aiding in the infliction of a cruel injustice and one of which it seems impossible you can have fully represented to yourself the issues.”

- Leontine Cooper, 1 September 1900