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Nurses
this means you



Our wounded
need care
They need YOU
they fight- won't you serve?

Enroll now for
army and navy service through
the American Red Cross

Calling Upon American Women to "Do their bit"

The labor shortage created by the war created changes in the workforce. The number of women working outside the home **grew** by about **6 percent** during the war. Many of these women took traditionally male jobs. They worked as automobile mechanics, bricklayers, metalworkers, railroad engineers, or truck drivers. In all, some **1.5 million American women** worked in **industry** during the war. Many women considered it their patriotic duty to work.

Women also volunteered for **non-combat jobs** in the military. Approximately **25,000 women**, serving in France, worked as nurses, telephone operators, clerical workers, typists and interpreters. Thousands of other women worked in other places for the military.

Wilson, who had previously wavered on women's suffrage, threw his support behind the **19th Amendment** in recognition of women's wartime contributions.

Source: Boyer's *The American Nation*, 2001, Holt, Rinehart and Winston.



Women workers in ordnance shops (military supply shop), Midval Steel and Ordnance Co., Nicetown, Pa. Hand chipping with pneumatic hammers.

Source: National Archives and Records Administration. 1918. Lt. Lubbe. <http://bill.ballpaul.net/iaph/main.php?g2_itemId=971>

The **Committee of Public Information**, headed by George Creel, was the government agency responsible for popularizing the war. They used posters like those seen below, to convince Americans to do their part in the war.

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How are these posters trying to convince **women** to do their part?