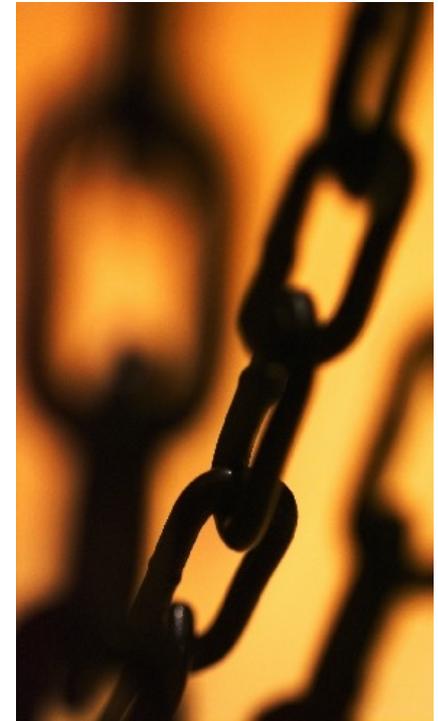
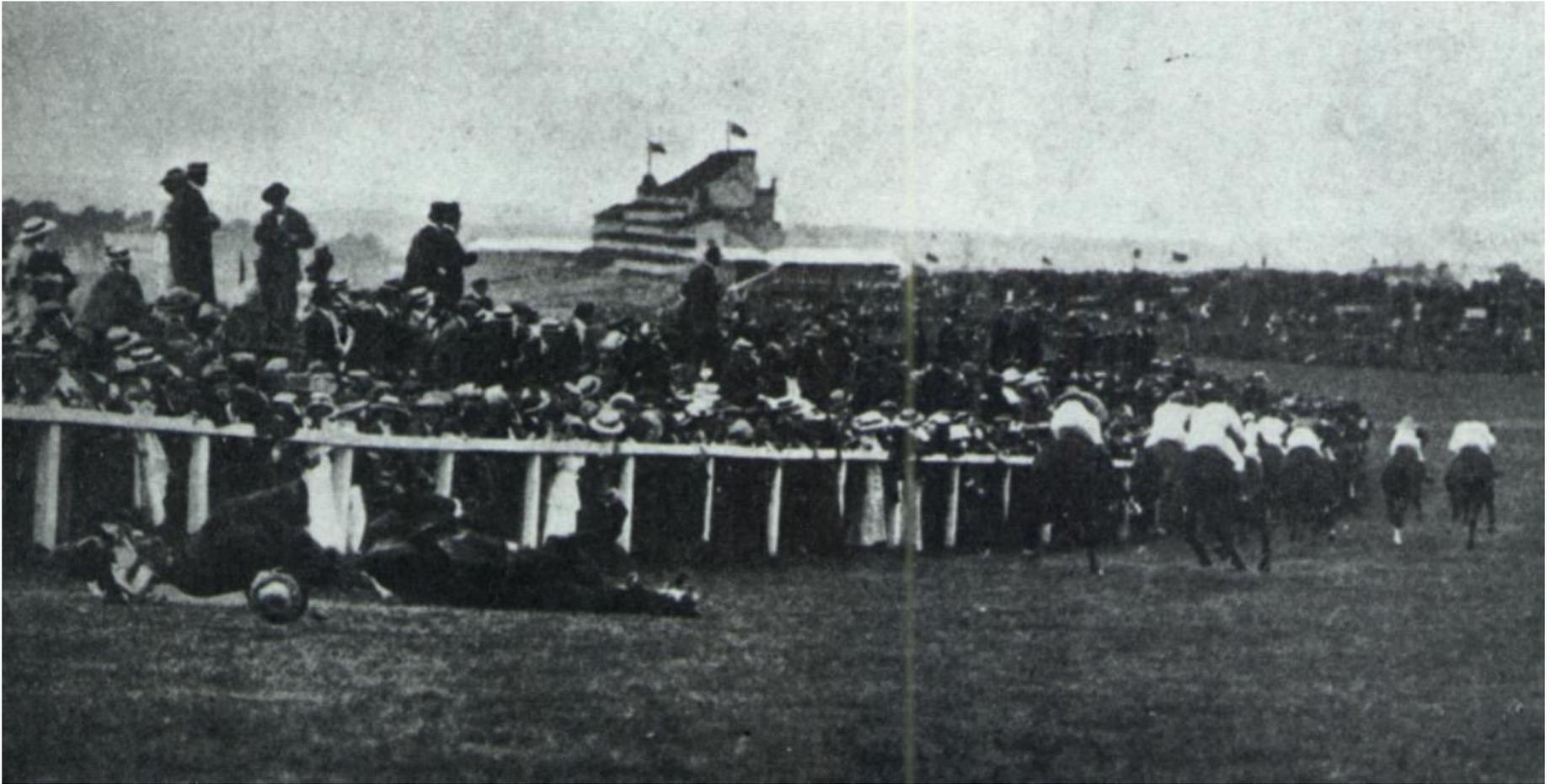


What do these images relate to...





What happened at the
Derby in 1913?

Who was Emily Wilding Davison?



What kind of person does this picture suggest Davison was?

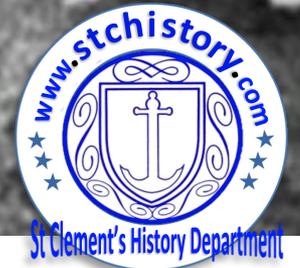
Emily Davison was a member of the Suffragette Movement and after being arrested and force fed many times took the ultimate sacrifice.

At the Epsom Derby, 4th June 1913 Emily threw herself under the horses at the biggest race of the year, arguably in the world. She died.

Was this a tragic accident or did Emily commit suicide?...



We're now going to investigate the incident and you're going to decide if Emily Davison committed or died by accident.



Look at this picture carefully and then answer the questions underneath



In the 1913 derby horse race, one suffragette, Emily Davison, was killed when she threw herself under the king's horse. Many men were angry because the king's horse was a good horse.

WHAT IMPACT DO YOU THINK THIS WOULD HAVE HAD ON THE SUFFRAGETTE FIGHT FOR THE VOTE?

GOOD
BECAUSE...

WASTE OF TIME
BECAUSE...

BAD
BECAUSE...

We're going to look at some sources now and we're going to annotate them together. Some of the sources suggest Emily died by accident and some suggest she died on purpose

*Suicide.

Source	Evidence for suicide, including quote.	Evidence for accident, including quote.	Reliability/ usefulness
A			
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			



Source A Mary Richardson

A Suffragette writing in 1953

It was not until the end of the third race that I saw her.. I smiled to her and from a distance she seemed to be smiling faintly back at me. She looked absorbed and yet far away from everybody else and seemed to have no interest in what was going on around her..... I was unable to keep my eyes off her. A minute before the race started she raised up a paper or some kind of card before her eyes. I was watching her hand. It did not shake. Even when I heard the pounding of the horses' hooves moving closer I saw that she was still smiling.



Source B Constable Bunn of Epsom Police Station said these items were found on her body:

- Two large flags coloured purple, white and green were pinned inside the back of her coat.
- A return ticket to London
- A diary with appointments booked for the following week



Source C Sylvia Pankhurst (A Suffragette Leader) writing just after the Derby

Emily had planned a protest with a friend at the Derby, just a waving of the purple, white and green flag, at Tattenham Corner which they hoped would stop the race. Whether from the first her purpose was more serious or whether a final impulse had altered her resolve I know not. Her friend declares she would not have died without writing a farewell message to her mother.



Source D

In 1912, Emily Davidson had thrown herself from the top of a prison staircase made of iron. It was a ten metre drop but she was saved from serious injury or death by landing on the edge of some safety netting. She then threw herself off the netting, landing on her head. She suffered head injuries and injuries to her back. She said, 'The idea in my mind was one big tragedy may save many others'. (From a Suffragette Statement, reprinted in *The Daily Herald* (a popular newspaper) 4th July 1912).



Source E from The Times newspaper the day after the Derby

The desperate act of a woman who rushed from the rails on to the course as the horses swept round Tattenham Corner, apparently from some mad notion that she could spoil the race.



Source F from a website about the Suffragettes

Emily Wilding Davison spent the weeks before the Derby practising stopping horses and attaching ribbons to them. Her plan was that the King's horse Anmer, would slow so that she could place a banner on him and that he would cross the finish line waving the flag of the Suffragettes.



Source G Emmeline Pankhurst (a Suffragette leader) writing in 1913

Emily rushed in the path of the galloping horses and caught the bridle of the King's horse which was leading all the others. The horse fell, throwing his jockey and crushing Miss Davison in such a shocking fashion that she was carried from the course in a dying condition.

