



What did the Suffragettes  
do to try and get the vote?



# What would you do?

If you were fighting for something you believed in...

- What would you do?
- How far would you go?
- What would the risks be?



Failing the peaceful protesting of the NUWSS (Suffragists), the WSPU (Suffragettes) changed tactics. Create a table in your book with the title

“What actions the Suffragettes took to get the vote”

**What is happening in the picture?**  
**Why do you think this has happened?**



Do you think actions like this will have helped or hindered the Suffragettes fight?





The following are lyrics from a song sung by Sister Suffragette in Mary Poppins. What is she singing about and what clues does this song give us about the actions of the Suffragettes?

We're clearly soldiers in petticoats And **dauntless** crusaders for woman's votes. Though we adore men individually, We agree that as a group they're rather stupid!

Cast off the **shackles** of yesterday! Shoulder to shoulder into the fray!  
Our daughters' daughters will adore us And they'll sing in grateful chorus "Well done, Sister Suffragette!"

From Kensington to Billingsgate One hears the restless cries! From every corner of the land:  
"Womankind, arise!" Political equality and equal rights with men! Take heart! For Missus Pankhurst has been **clapped in irons again!**

No more the meek and mild **subservients** we! We're fighting for our rights, militantly! Never you fear!

So, cast off the shackles of yesterday! Shoulder to shoulder into the fray! Our daughters' daughters will adore us And they'll sign in grateful chorus "Well done! Well done! Well done Sister Suffragette!"



Other actions:

With these examples, try to turn them into an image or logo that you can associate with the text (Dual Coding)

- Chaining themselves to railings
- Smashing shop windows
- Visiting the Prime Minister
- Disrupting political meetings
- Refusing to pay fines
- Possible suicide in front of Buckingham Palace
- Setting post boxes on fire
- Burning buildings
- Refusing to break up mass protests
- Making banners, sashes and badges
- Graffiti – using indelible ink on the walls of Parliament and acid on the PM's favourite golf courses
- Hitting and spitting at policemen to try to get arrested
- Throwing stones and bricks at MP's
- Hitting Winston Churchill with a large riding whip
- Throwing a hatchet at PM Asquith
- Slashing paintings in the National Gallery

Which of these actions do you think were too far?



## Why did the Suffragettes WANT to get arrested?



Suffragettes often went on hunger strike in prison.

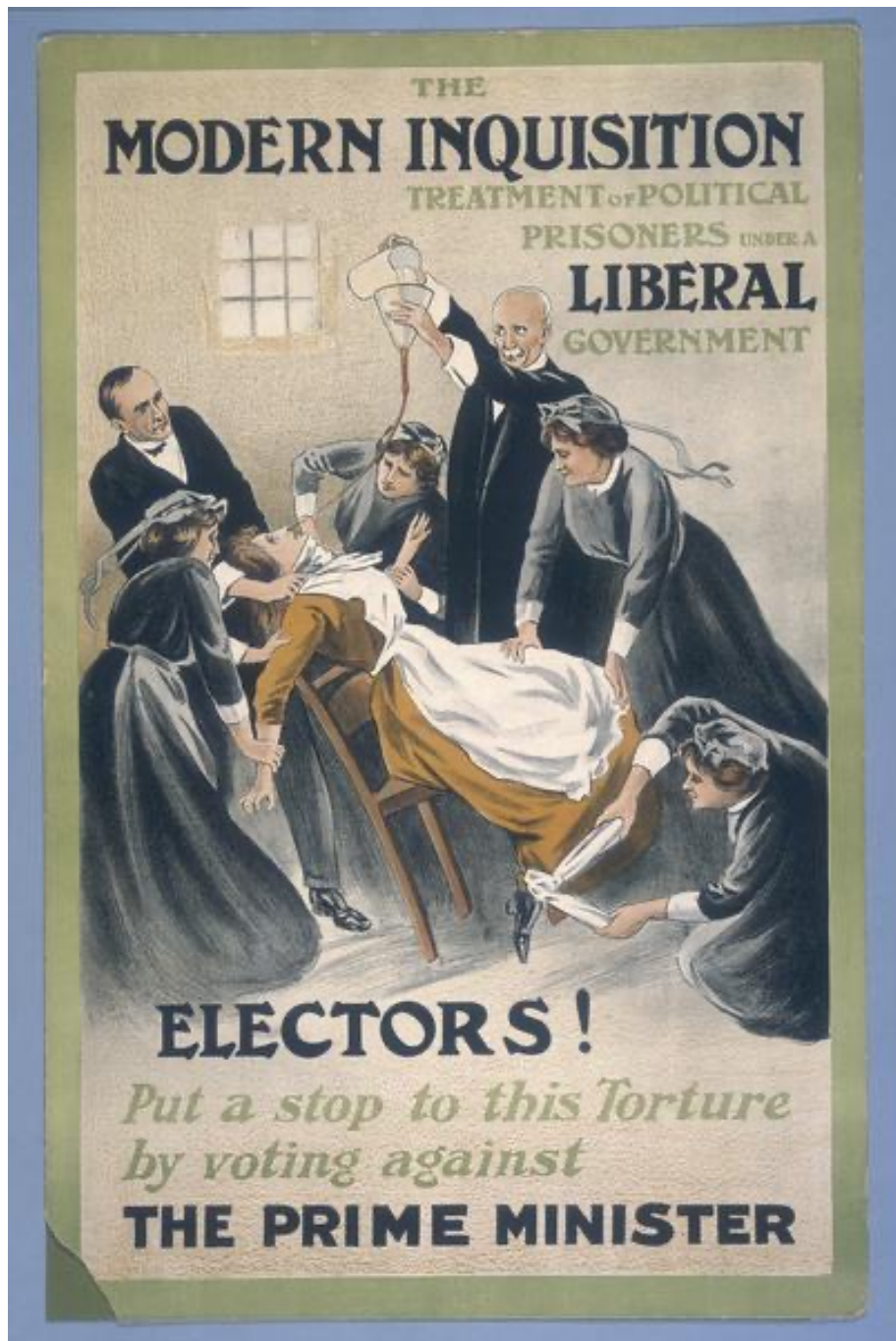
Why do you think they did this?

What could the government do about it?

What could the government NOT allow to happen?







They decided to force feed the women.

What does this poster show as to how they did that? Is it fair? Is it too far?

# THE CAT AND MOUSE ACT

PASSED BY THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT



**THE LIBERAL CAT  
ELECTORS VOTE AGAINST HIM!  
KEEP THE LIBERAL OUT!**

BUY AND READ 'THE SUFFRAGETTE' PRICE 1D

WOMEN'S SOCIAL & POLITICAL UNION - LINCOLN'S INN HOUSE - LONDON W.C.

What do you think the Cat & Mouse Act was?



# So what next?

Nothing seemed to be working, maybe it was time for something even more dramatic...

