

## **Chalk Talk:**

### **On the Birth of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League**

Print out the materials for this Chalk Talk activity, set up your classroom, then have students go to the three designated stations, adding their reflections at each stop. If students are unsure about what to write in their comments, prompt them with a few questions:

1. What do you notice about how women are being portrayed here?
2. Using your prior knowledge about the state of women's rights at this time, what stands out to you?

## **STATION 1: FROM THE ALL-AMERICAN GIRLS PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL LEAGUE WEBSITE**

“By the fall of 1942, many [men’s] minor league teams disbanded due to the war. Young men, 18 years of age and over, were being drafted into the armed services. The fear that this pattern would continue and that Major League Baseball Parks across the country were in danger of collapse is what prompted Philip K. Wrigley, the chewing-gum mogul who had inherited the Chicago Cubs’ Major League Baseball franchise from his father, to search for a possible solution to this dilemma.”

So began the story of women’s baseball in the World War II era. At the founding of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, Philip K. Wrigley stated, “Femininity is the keynote of our league; no pants-wearing, tough-talking female will play on any of our four teams.”

## **STATION 2: EXAMPLES OF ALL-AMERICAN GIRLS PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL LEAGUE TEAM NAMES**

1. Kalamazoo Lassies
2. Rockford Peaches
3. Fort Wayne Daisies
4. Chicago Colleens
5. Racine Belles
6. Milwaukee Chicks

# STATION 3

Fig. 1



Fig. 2

