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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING BOOK  
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
SUPPLEMENTAL

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WBS-TV INTERVIEW

February 11, 1976

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SHARON KING

WBZ-TV BOSTON

WOMEN's '76

AREAS OF QUESTIONING

INFLATION  
ENERGY  
HEALTH  
EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT  
ABORTION  
WOMEN IN THE FORD ADMINISTRATION  
THE FORD FAMILY



WHY SHOULD WOMEN VOTE FOR YOU

Q: For what reasons would you encourage women to vote for you?

A: As I have said I am going to run on my record. I would assume that women and men would vote for me because of my actions to address the concerns of inflation, the economy and unemployment.

I would also expect women to vote for me because of the initiatives that I have taken during my administration to open new doors to women and to eliminate barriers which still exist for women's full participation in our society. For example:

- 1) The appointment of Carla Hills as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Betty Southard Murphy as Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board; Anne Armstrong as Ambassador to the Court of St. James; and the appointments to my own staff such as Patricia Lindh, Special Assistant to the President for Women; Gwen Anderson, Deputy Assistant to the Counsellor to the President; Margita White, Assistant Press Secretary; Bobbie Kilberg, Associate Counsel; and Judy Hope, Associate Director of the Domestic Council.
- 2) My March 6th memorandum to heads of departments and agencies to insure that all persons have an opportunity to compete on a fair and equal basis



for employment and advancement in the Federal government.

- 3) The establishment and appointment of the National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year.
- 4) My support for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.
- 5) The legislation that I have signed into law since becoming President including:
  - a) Housing and Community Development Act which includes a section prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in housing and mortgage credit lending.
  - b) The Education Amendments of 1974 which includes a section called the Women's Education Equity Act to provide funds for the development of curricula and textbooks related to equality in education.
  - c) Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and marital status in the granting of consumer credit.
  - d) The military procurement bill which permits women to be eligible for appointment and admission to the service academies for classes entering in the calendar year 1976.



- e) H.R. 9924 which directs the National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year to plan and convene a National Women's Conference.



ERA

Q: What is your position on the Equal Rights Amendment?

A: As a member of the House of Representatives, I voted for the Amendment. Since becoming President, my support has continued. In my 1975 Women's Equality Day Proclamation, I said it would be most fitting for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to be accomplished during our Nation's two-hundredth year. In this land of the free, it is fitting and right that all men and all women are equal before the law.



NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

- Q. Why did you not propose in your new budget a national health insurance bill?
- A. Our major task right now is to bring government spending in line with our resources. Adding expensive new programs, such as national health insurance, would seriously add to our budget deficits, and is not - in any case - the best solution to the problem of safeguarding against medical cost. Finding the best protection will require further study. I have, however, proposed additional insurance against catastrophic illness for recipients of Medicare, which would be self-financing.





SCHMALZRIED SUIT

Q. Darlene Schmalzried, former employee of your news summary staff has filed a law suit against you and several members of your staff on the grounds of sex discrimination because she says she was not paid as much as the man who was doing the job before her. Do you believe in equal opportunities and pay for women?

A. I am not familiar with the details of that suit and couldn't say much about a suit in litigation, anyway. But it is my understanding that the matter was reviewed here by the counsels office and they determined there was no discrimination.

But I certainly believe in equal opportunities and pay for women. There are several women in top positions on my staff. I have named a woman to my cabinet, another to be Ambassador to Great Britain, and have placed many others in top positions.

And I can assure you that Betty will see that I continue to do so.



WOMEN IN YOUR ADMINISTRATION

Q: What is your record regarding the appointment of women to high-level positions in your Administration?

A: I think my record will speak for itself. I have appointed the following:

Carla Hills, Secretary of HUD

Betty Southard Murphy, Chairman, National Labor Relations Board

Anne Armstrong, Ambassador to the Court of St. James

Marjorie Lynch, Under Secretary of HEW

Judith Connor, Assistant Secretary of Transportation

Constance Newmann, Assistant Secretary of HUD

Mary Olmsted, Ambassador to Papua New Guinea

Betty Jo Christian, Commissioner, Interstate Commerce Commission

Barbara Anne Simpson, Commissioner, Federal Power Commission

Georgiana Sheldon, Commissioner, Civil Service Commission

Ethel Bent Walsh, reappointed as Vice Chairman, EEOC

And those on my own White House Staff include:

Patricia S. Lindh, Special Assistant to the President

Margita White, Assistant Press Secretary

Bobbie Kilberg, Associate Counsel

Judy Hope, Associate Director of the Domestic Council

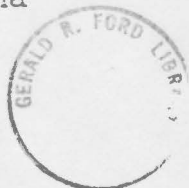


WOMEN'S RIGHTS - DIFFERENCES WITH REAGAN

Q: Former Governor Reagan has stated that he supports correcting inequities based on sex by statute and not by a Federal Amendment. You, of course, have been a supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment. Can you tell us why you support the Constitutional Amendment instead of the law by law approach of Mr. Reagan?

A: As Professor <sup>\*</sup>William B. Aycock has stated, "Surely, The American Revolution would have been fought without the eloquent words of the Declaration of Independence. But these words helped the cause of freedom in dimensions not susceptible to precise measurement." The reasons that I favor ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment are that an Amendment to our Constitution establishes a principle of equality brings us one step closer to the full realization of the meaning of equality as expressed in our Declaration of Independence. "The Declaration of Independence is an expression of hope and the Equal Rights Amendment is an expression of achievement."

\*William B. Aycock is Kenan professor of law and former chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



## THE FORD FAMILY

Sharon King has indicated she will ask questions about your family. Because these will be personal questions that only you can answer, no guidance has been prepared.

