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Letter from a New York Supporter to Geraldine Ferraro

Geraldine Ferraro

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RECEIVED 1984

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WASHINGTON OF THE

July 12, 1984

Representative Geraldine Ferraro 1725 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative (soon Vice President) Ferraro,

During the past several weeks I have seen the first rays of hope for women in four years. This morning I heard of your impending inclusions the Democratic Vice Presidential candidate; yesterday I attended Marcella Maxwell's swearing in as Chairperson of the New York City Commission on Human Rights; two weeks ago the WALL STREET JOURNAL announced a pilot Federal Women's Executive Leadership Program (lamentably, only for women in D.C.). Having been in professional mothballs since completing the CORO program and undertaking evening study at New York Law School in 1981, this sudden change is welcome — but I am of course worried about whether our hopes will be realized this time around.

Remembering your words of encouragement when I was selected for the first East Coast CORO group, and reflecting on the many times you have aided me and other women (going back to when I called you at home and you introduced me to A. Patricia Moore to help with a family legal matter in 1975) I know that if you win you will fulfill the promises made to women as you always have. I certainly have been walking "taller" all day today since hearing the good news about you!

Please count on me for whatever support I can give, although I am constrained by the Hatch Act from doing many of the things I would like to do. My husband, Bria will be working with the Prty's Asian-Pacific Caucus to register Asian voters in Queens and Manhattan, so at least one member of our household can be of active assistance. We both send you our warmest congratulations.

Sincerely,

cc: Enclosures
P.S. When things quiet down and you are home in Forest Hills, I would
like to 1) invite you to our place for dinner; 2) discuss ... you
the negative impact of Austin St.'s gentrific ation on our mutual
friends at Koch and Nord (it turns out we've both been shopping
there for the 17 years since they opened).



SELECTION DAY SPEECH FOR CORO FOUNDATION

PUBLIC AFFAIRS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM - New York, N.Y.

March 1981

(Visual display - Japanese shrine decoration)

This is the money tree - a Japanese shrine decoration. Its symbols represent various wishes for prosperity and the means by which it is attained. They include one of a pair of dice, reminding us to gamble, or take risks, and cherry blossoms, telling us that a human life, like the spring blooms, is transient and lasts but a short moment in the span of time. It conveys an initial feeling of optimism to me through its colors.

When I take a second, more critical look, and think more deeply, I realize that the young woman, a folk symbol, is at the forefront, but she is merely a decoration, a naive, childish image of perhaps fertility. I hope ultimately to see all women as full reapers of the promise of the money tree — to see prosperity not only symbolized by woman, but also held by her in full measure.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

GERALDINE A. FERRARO

March 2, 1981

Forest Hills, New York 11375

Dear Ms.

I want you to know how delighted I am that you were chosen to take part in the Coro Foundation Public Affairs Training Program. As I indicated in my remarks on Friday morning, I think it is absolutely essential that women become involved in public life or, I'm afraid, that we will see the great strides made by women in the past decade, erased.

Best wishes for your future success.

Very truly yours,

Geraldine A. Ferraro Member of Congress

GAF:ms

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Letter Code: CGI