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Letter from a New Jersey Supporter to Geraldine Ferraro

Geraldine Ferraro

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DREW UNIVERSITY

Madison, New Jersey 07940 / [REDACTED]

RECEIVED

July 23, 1984

JUL 26 1984

The Honorable Geraldine A. Ferraro
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON OFFICE

Dear Representative Ferraro:

This is the first "fan letter" I've ever written to a politician. I agree with Gloria Steinem, who is reported in last Friday's New York Times to have said, "I didn't know how deeply I would feel about it." But when Walter Mondale announced on that fateful Thursday that you were his choice as Vice Presidential candidate, I was ecstatic. For the first time in twenty years, I feel inspired, even compelled, to work actively in a political campaign. Your energy, enthusiasm, and spontaneity are truly infectious. And your acceptance speech last Thursday night was a "knockout." Between now and November 6, I shall do everything I can to assure the election of the Mondale-Ferraro ticket.

During the past several months, when you became increasingly discussed as a possible Vice Presidential candidate, I set out to learn as much as I could about you. And I was impressed by everything I saw and read. The profile on you in the July issue of Ms. is especially informative. What a stunning, what a magnificent human being you are! And what a superb role model for us all! As an intellectual, I care deeply about the central issues of the Democratic Party, on which I agree with you. As one who has had practical experience in politics, I respect immensely the political savvy you have demonstrated as a Congresswoman and as chair of the Democratic Platform Committee.

Although I have been an ardent Democrat since I first voted in a Presidential election for Adlai Stevenson in 1956, it was not until 1964, that, devastated by Kennedy's assassination and appalled by Goldwater's nomination, I felt compelled to work in a campaign. I chose that of Congressional candidate Wes Vivian in the Second District of Michigan. We beat a seven-term Republican incumbent by 2500 votes. So excited was I by Wes's work in Congress that eventually I took a leave of absence from graduate school at the University of Michigan to work in his district office in Ann Arbor. My career might have been very different if he had not been defeated for re-election in 1966; the district was just too Republican for him to be re-elected without the help of something like the Johnson landslide. But I did work on two more of his campaigns, in 1966 and 1968, before I moved to New Jersey in the fall of 1968.

I will bring to your campaign not only the experience I gained in the 1960's, but also all the energy, dedication, and excitement I felt then. I am deeply grateful to you for your inspiration. For the sake of this country, Mondale-Ferraro must win in November.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Title: * MS
 First Name: [REDACTED] Middle Name: * [REDACTED]
 Last Name: [REDACTED] Salutation: Ms. [REDACTED]
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CORRESPONDENCE INFORMATION

Letter Code: VO1

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION *

d/i code 1: W d/i code 2: TEACH d/i code 3: _____ d/i code 4: _____

* All items marked with * are optional, including all d/i codes. All items not marked with * must be filled in or the computer will not accept the record.