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Letter from Patricia Bray, a Journalist in Mexico, to Geraldine Ferraro

Patricia Bray

The News

Geraldine Ferraro

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OCT 29 1984

October 12, 1984

The Honorable Geraldine Ferraro
The Congress of the United States
The House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE



Dear Congresswoman Ferraro:

May I take this opportunity to congratulate you on your outstanding performance in the debate with Vice-President Bush. The Foreign Correspondents Club in Mexico was the scene of a gathering of the Democrats Abroad and Independents to watch the debates. There was a general consensus that you won the debate hands down. We were all rather surprised to hear NBS's comments later that were quite the opposite. However, as a former television associate producer in Washington I would credit the close-up shots that the television viewer enjoys as being very significant for the judgment of the viewer. Other countries and cultures different than the United States put much study and emphasis on eyes, facial features and presence. On this criteria alone, you came across to all of us as a polished professional, in command of her facts, understated, firm, and most of all a very human, concerned public official. We were all very proud of you and wish you the best in the coming weeks.

Fritz Mondale was my first boss and we grew up in the same area. My mother was at the picnic in Elmore and gave me a full account on a recent trip to Minnesota and Iowa. I was in the States in August and wrote about your situation in a local column and again on September 30. I thought you might enjoy reading this column. It is often clipped by many embassies here and so it usually goes around the world as THE NEWS is the largest English-language daily in Latin America. As Latin America goes, so goes the world banking system.

Fritz Mondale held a position on his staff open for me for three months so I could graduate from St. Catherine's in St. Paul, Minnesota. I never forgot it. And what the man has done for women everywhere is just incredible. All the machos are a little shaken!

The spirit of the law and the letter of the law in public officials would be a nice change from an oilman and an actor. "May the road rise to meet you and the wind be always at your back....and we hope between the inauguration and the post-election we see you in Mexico!"

Enclosure: Memo to the Editor, Sept. 30, 1984

[Redacted]
Mexico 03900, D.F.

Sincerely,

Patricia Bray
Patricia Bray
THE NEWS COLUMNIST