

The Honorable Patricia Scott Schroeder
U.S. Representative of Colorado (1973–1997)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

“It’s Her!”

Representative Schroeder describes the confusion that occurred when she arrived in the House as a new Member.

Interview recorded June 3, 2015

I was 31 and just a few months older than Liz Holtzman, who I think was the youngest woman—woman who ever ran. So, yeah, the idea I was young, I had young children, what was I thinking, and when I came, the then-Speaker of the House, wonderful Carl Albert, kept saying to my husband, “Raise your hand.” And he kept saying, “It’s her.” And he’d look at me and he’d say, “No, raise your hand, we got to swear you in.” And he said, “No, no, no, it’s her.” And we would go to all of these events and they would come and say to me, “You’re standing in the wrong place, the Member is supposed to be in front.” And he’d say, “It’s her.” And I think he got so tired of saying, “It’s her!”