

The Honorable Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
U.S. Representative of California (1973–1979)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

***Ebony* Feature**

Representative Burke remembers being featured on the cover of *Ebony* magazine with her daughter.
Interview recorded July 22, 2015

Well, it was a cover that has—people still have. And it's always remembered because first of all, it was unusual for a woman who was in business or an elective office to talk about having family and being able to carry out their duties. I, personally, have always felt that women have a right to choose what they want to do. In my case, I was at an age of where I was, I had to have a child, or else I'd forget it. So, it was a decision that I always wanted to have a child. And to me, I always wanted to be—I can't say I always wanted to be in politics because I didn't really always want to be in politics, but I always wanted to make a difference. And I was an advocate, so I knew I would always either be working as a lawyer—I was a civil rights lawyer for a long time—and I would always be involved.