

**The Honorable Lois Capps**  
U.S. Representative of California (1998–2017)

**Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress**

**Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee**

Representative Capps describes her political involvement as a young woman.  
*Interview recorded July 16, 2019*

I remember belonging to, when I was a young woman, married, having moved from a graduate school setting where my husband and I spent our first four years of our marriage to Santa Barbara, where he joined the faculty at University of California at Santa Barbara. And as a young wife and young mother, I looked for a group, I, I found a group that was just forming. Out of the kind of feminist rise, the Women's—Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee is still a strong organization in our community, and their goal was to encourage women to take part in the political process. I had no idea, peripherally, of doing that in the very beginning, but I found the group very stimulating, and got to know many lifelong friends in my community through that organization.