

The Honorable Elizabeth Furse
U.S. Representative of Oregon (1993–1999)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Early Activism

Representative Furse describes her involvement in the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa.
Interview recorded June 8, 2017

I remember the first march in Cape Town where there were—and then, I had been in England and I returned, and I was in the demonstration around the Houses of Parliament. I was 18 and that was—we were, we were quite roughed up by, by people and by the, and the, and the police did not do anything to protect the women, but you, you didn't say anything, you just stood there with this black sash. It was very effective. President Mandela thanked the Black Sash when he came out of, of prison, so I think that was wonderful.