

The Honorable Melissa A. Hart
U.S. Representative of Pennsylvania (2001–2007)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Staging a Bill Signing

Representative Hart shares her thoughts about inclusiveness in the political process.
Interview recorded September 30, 2019

But when they signed—and I'll never forget this. They signed the partial-birth abortion ban, I think the President when he signed the bill—and the photograph that made it to all the media was the President and a bunch of white guys. And, you know, I was, I was on a tirade after that. I'm like, "What are you doing? Do you think that bill passed because of you guys? What about the rest of us?" You know, and it just was too narrow. The, the group that they would move forward—it was like the chairman, it was the subcommittee chairman, and it was the bill sponsor. Well, what about all the other people who advocated for it or whatever? And, and there was just, you know—they just needed to be more aware.