

## **Muriel Morisey**

**Senior Legislative Assistant, Representative Shirley Chisholm of New York**

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

#### **Working Across the Aisle**

Muriel Morisey describes working with Republican staff members.

*Interview recorded April 19, 2017*

Oh, yeah, I think it was widely known and understood. And she was a great believer in working across the aisle. She was a great believer in, in finding common ground with Republicans. And I remember particularly Congressman Al Quie from Minnesota, who I think was probably the ranking Republican on the House Education and Labor Committee, and he had a staff member, a guy named Bob Andringa. And Congressman Quie and Congresswoman Chisholm basically told us—it was a particular project; I forget what it—but they told us to get together and work something out, because if Congressman Quie endorsed it, the Republicans would see it as a good idea. And if Shirley Chisholm endorsed it, the Democrats would see it as a good idea. And so they decided our staffs could get together and get it done, because if we—you know, those two endorsements were going to make that thing fly. I can't remember the specific proposal, but I remember working with him, and all of us, under strict orders, we're going to make this happen. Congressman Quie and Congresswoman Chisholm are counting on us to get it done.