

**Deborah D. Pryce**  
U.S. Representative of Ohio (1993–2009)

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

### **Impact of Being a Mother in Congress**

Representative Pryce talks about how being a mother influenced her role as a legislator.  
*Interview recorded August 9, 2018*

Being a mother had a, a tremendous impact on everything I did. I mean, everyone brings their own experience to their work whether you are a, you know, a fireman or a Member of Congress. You know, you have what you have in your heart and your mind. And, and so nobody can deny parenthood as being a huge piece of their life and so even fathers, I think, bring parenting perspective. But mothers just seem to have a lighter touch about it, I think. And I always had, I never thought there were issues that were women's issues or children's issues but there were issues that affected women more and that affected children more and I always thought they were very important. I was never on a committee of jurisdiction because I had the Rules Committee and the Banking Committee. So I never was in, in the weeds to the extent that I, you know, amended legislation or that type of stuff, but from a leadership perspective I could weigh in on the Violence Against Women Act or the pediatric cancer bill or things like that that meant a lot to me and meant a lot to children.