

Cokie Roberts

Congressional Correspondent and Daughter of Representatives Hale and Lindy Boggs of Louisiana

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Knowing the Family

Cokie Roberts describes how congressional families crossed party lines when her father served in the House.

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When I was a kid, you know, all the moms—and it was the moms—were in the PTA together. You know, my, my, one of my very best friends growing up—and she’s still a good friend—was Libby Miller, whose father, Bill Miller, was a conservative Republican from upstate New York who became chairman of the Republican National Committee and, and Barry Goldwater’s running mate in 1964. And here we were, two little girls, you know, playing Clue in the basement. And there was no way to demonize someone in that situation. You know, you knew who the families were. You knew who, you, you could disagree. You could think somebody was wrongheaded, but you didn’t think they were evil. And, and I think that’s the big change, and it’s a very unfortunate change for the country.