

Allyson Y. Schwartz
U.S. Representative of Pennsylvania (2005–2015)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Moment to Seize

Representative Schwartz discusses her early experience in women's health care.
Interview recorded April 12, 2017

What I found was increasingly intriguing was the work on women's health care that I was doing, and how that was both a professional interest of mine, and also a passion, I guess, a political passion, if you want to call it that, and a women's rights passion. And so I ended up working with a group of women to start a women's health center in Philadelphia, which was pretty daring of us. What made us think we could do such a thing? It was a very 1960s thing, I think, even though it was early '70s. And it was just after the Supreme Court decision in '73 which legalized abortion in the, in this country. And so there was a—it was a moment to seize, and could we do this? How could we do it?