

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

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

### **A Different Style**

Representative Schwartz explains how women often brought a different style to the legislative arena.  
*Interview recorded April 12, 2017*

I think sort of a risk-taking, feisty woman is seen as disruptive and scary sometimes, certainly for the politically powerful. And I think women are seen that way because we do bring a different perspective and a different style. So do different men, but I felt that certainly when I came here to Congress. I felt it when I went to the state senate. You know, the group of men huddled around a corner, and then you walk into it. You could just see the body language changes, you know? I think it was a good thing, by the way, you know, that it is. But it does defy what they're used to. It is a change. It isn't always embraced.