

Political Activism and the Role of the Republican Woman  
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Over the past three hundred years, women have made many great strides in society. They fought for their right to be educated, the right to vote, the right to own land, the opportunity to become business owners, and the opportunity to serve the people as an elected official. The women before my generation have made their mark on history to advance women's role in the political process. My generation will make their mark, too, but only because the women before me have fought and sacrificed to ensure these rights. Now, I have the opportunity to take an active role in leading my nation.

Many women have already been successfully elected to public office, but it is not enough. Women make up half of America's population, but Congress is not representative of the female population. There are currently seventy-seven female Representatives and seventeen female Senators in Congress. Of these women, very few are Republican Women.

Now that Governor Sarah Palin, a Republican Woman, has been taken seriously as a candidate for one of America's highest political offices, people will recognize that Republican Women are a force to be reckoned with. Governor Palin's campaign shows America that Republican Women are and always have been capable of garnering enough support and funds to contend for high profile public offices. Despite Governor Palin's failure to be elected, I do believe there have been positive outcomes from her campaign. The most important is that she has paved the way for young Republican Women to run for President or Vice-President. Palin has also started the Republican Woman Revolution. She revitalized the Republican Woman base and has energized my generation of Republican Women. Governor Palin has excited young Republican Women and they want to be politically active. One Republican Woman has proven that Republican Women are up to the challenge of running for office and making a difference in our great nation.

As a Republican Woman I must be politically active to ensure the vitality of American democracy. It is my duty to support every Republican Woman who is seeking election to a public office

so that women may be represented properly in Congress. Because the Republican Party is committed to American democracy, it is also my duty as a Republican Woman to stand by these values so that America may prosper. If the Republican Women were not politically active, the entire Republican Party would crumble and the American people would not have a choice between ideologies when they enter the voting booth. It truly takes a Republican Woman to get the job done.

I am aware of this scholarship because I am more politically active than most college students. My mother and the wonderful ladies of the Pulaski County Republican Women's Club have instilled in me since my childhood the conservative values which the Virginia Federation of Republican Women upholds. This organization truly is devoted to empowering women of all ages, ethnicities and backgrounds in the political process. I am proof of the devotion and special care of the women of this organization.

I am a proud member of the Pulaski County Republican Women's Club and the Virginia Federation of Republican Women. I love working with this organization because it is productive for the Republican Party, for America, and an important part of American democracy and the political process.

To me, an American citizen is informed about her government, involved in her government, and able to freely make decisions about her representation in her government. The Republican Woman embodies the ideal American citizen; she is politically active, informed, and exercises her right to vote at every opportunity. And if she does not like the way her government is being run, she does something about it. She fights for her conservative ideals and makes certain that every woman has the chance to stand for her values, regardless of political ideology. Republican Women make it happen for every woman and every citizen in America.