

BRANCH PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM

Women and Girls in Government

A Panel Discussion of

Why They Became Involved, Who Helped and
What Does Their Future Hold

Featuring

High School/College Girls in Student Government

Women in Town and County Government

March 19, 2007

Venue: High School, College or Public Library

Procedure: Contact local high schools and colleges in the fall to determine Faculty Advisors for the Student Government and Classes. After the elections, ask the advisors the names of girls holding office. Invite them, their advisors, aspiring female candidates, social studies and political science classes, to come to the forum. Contact women in government, both elected and appointed, should be asked to participate in this panel at that time. Suggested questions: What motivated you to seek this position? What personal satisfaction is involved.? What support would you need to continue? (A branch committee met later to develop questions. See the following page for the results.)

Part of the idea is to find why women do and do not run for office. What makes it happen and how can we support them.

GOING THE DISTANCE

How does she get there?
What keeps her there?
What obstacles does she face?

Panel Discussion with:
A Town Councilwoman
A Girl Scout Director- Go Girl Govern Patch
Young Woman in Student Government

These are the questions for the panel.

How did she get there?

Personal background information.

What or who influenced you to do this?

What or who encouraged you along this path?

What obstacles does she face?

What other women might have obstacles?

Ones they have had that others might not have had?

How did you overcome them

What keeps her there?

How do you make a difference?

Who supports you so you can do all this?

What's the primary reason for you to do this?

Tell a story of a rewarding experience