

The Honorable Susan Molinari
U.S. Representative of New York (1990–1997)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Mothers in Congress

Representative Molinari recalls serving in Congress as the mother of an infant.
Interview recorded January 8, 2016

So, Blanche and I got to be good friends, because we would do TV together, right. I remember some TV show came into my house and, you know, we're there with the big bellies and we're like, "Okay, let's go through the house. Do you have a smoke alarm?" Everybody would use this as an opportunity for TV. I remember there was a Mother's Day right, right after Susan was born, and it was Mary Landrieu with her adorable son sitting on her lap, was at that age where he was just going to totally upstage mom for Mother's Day. And, Blanche Lincoln was pregnant the same time I was. And so it was, I mean it was great. You know, look, there's probably no easier job than being in Congress when you're having a kid, because nobody's going to tell you not to like, you know, bring your child around, and so, you know, our babies were constantly with us. I mean, I, I went back to work right away, but I had a crib in my room, and if I had a meeting and the—Susan was sleeping, I traded offices with my husband. I mean, literally, I would go in and say, you know, "I've got this meeting and Susan is sleeping, can I meet in your office?" So, you know, my life was, was really, was really very easy and very lucky.