

The Political Tradition Out of Which She Comes

Mary Rose Oakar

“The Political Tradition Out of Which She Comes” stems from the way I was raised, my neighborhood, and parents who taught me to respect all people. In addition, growing up on the Near West Side/Ohio City area and experiencing diversity of people in income, ethnic religions, and racial backgrounds were the greatest learning experiences I could have had. As a Cleveland City Councilwoman, I saw first-hand poverty with families and our elderly.

I realized how important it was for people to have gainful employment, proper training, and education.

Thus in Congress and City Council I attempted to improve the quality of life based on experiences in my own community. This is mirrored in my legislation for neighborhoods, health care, women’s rights, fairness in pay, aging issues, and advocacy in procuring funds for Greater Cleveland.

My mother’s diary records that my dad voted a straight Democratic ticket before I was born. He believed in President Roosevelt and felt that his policies got us out of the Depression.