

The original documents are located in Box 2, folder “1976/07/29 - Spouses' Briefing, White House” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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SUGGESTED REMARKS, Spouses' Briefing, July 29, 1976

This is officially called a briefing. If it were at a college, it would be a seminar. If we were younger, a happening. If we were journalists, a backgrounder.

But to me, this is a reunion of kindred spirits. Your patience and understanding of the demands of your spouses' jobs keep this Administration going.

It so encourages the President and me to know you asked to come today, because you want to be even more involved in this Administration.

We think you're great, and we are always glad to see you. Thanks for everything, and welcome to our House and yours.

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Suggested Remarks, Briefing, July 29, 1976

It's just great to have you here today. Your energy, enthusiasm and patience help keep this Administration going.

~~XX~~
I know what demands your spouses' jobs put on you, and your ~~response~~ response has been ~~really~~ grand.

This briefing today ~~is~~ arranged by ~~Bill~~ Jeanne Holm and Bill Baroody ^{wanting to be} was because of your ~~interest in the~~ ^{getting} more involved. ~~Administration~~. Your questions at the last briefing ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ showed how informed and concerned you all are, and I'm so glad you ^{wanted another one.} ~~are back today~~.

Your spirit really lifts us up, and the President and I appreciate your commitment. So to the ~~the~~ teachers and the learners, thanks for your time!

Suggested Remarks, ~~xxx~~ Briefing, July 29, 1976

I'm so glad you ~~x~~ could come today. This group certainly doesn't need ~~a~~ ^{an official} ~~welcome~~ ~~week~~ welcome to the White House, because your energies and enthusiasim help keep us going.

This briefing, arranged by Bill Baroody and Jeanne ~~Holm~~ Holm, ^{results} really ~~comes~~ ~~x~~ from the suggestions of many of you who want to get more involved with the Administration. I think your spirit is great.

I know how much your understanding and patience helps your spouses, and how much ^{that} ~~knackwork~~ ~~your team work~~ helps ~~make~~ the President's job ~~x~~ ~~go~~ more smoothly.

So to our briefers today and to all of you---thanks.

Suggested Remarks, Briefing, July 29, 1976

It's just great to see you all ^{here} today!

You all don't need an official welcome to the White House, because your energy and enthusiasm help keep ^{us} ~~this Administration~~ going. But I am so glad you could come, ~~today.~~

Jeanne Holm and Bill Baroody arranged this briefing, because so many of you wanted to get more ^{involved} involved. I think your spirit is great, and I know how much the President appreciates your interest.

Your patience and understanding about the long of the job hours and demands ^{helps} your spouses and the ^{the} Administration. ^{first-hand your contributions} As some one who knows what that means, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ my ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ salute to all of you.

For those who came to learn and those who ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~xxx~~ came to teach---thanks for your time and commitment.

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But to me, this is a reunion of kindred spirits. Your energy, enthusiasm and understanding keeps this Administration going. It really ~~is~~ encourages the President and me to know you asked to come today, because you want to be even more involved in this Administration.

We think you're great, and we're always glad to ~~we~~ see you. Thanks for everything you do!

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMO FOR: KAY PULLEN
FROM: JEANNE HOLM
SUBJECT: Talking Points

Attached are suggested talking
points for Mrs. Ford. I'm sure
you will be able to elaborate.

Thank you.

*Zera Brown
for JH*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 28, 1976

Briefings of Spouses of Presidential
Appointees and Spokespersons

Thursday, July 29, 1976

2:30 P.M. (2-1/2 Hours)

EAST ROOM

FROM: Jeanne Holm

I. PURPOSE

To bring together the spouses of top members of the Administration to discuss major current policies and programs of the President in order that they may be informed and to make them feel like part of the President's team.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AND PRESS PLAN

- A. Background: Early this year a briefing was conducted for the wives of Presidential appointees and White House staff members. It was well received. They asked very penetrating questions of the briefers. Also, wives of some Administration officials have complained recently that they have not been brought into Administration activities.
- B. Participants: Approximately 200 spouses of Presidential appointees, top-level officials, and White House staff. (Mary Butz, Nancy Kissinger, Glendora Kleppe, Mary Mathews, Anne Richardson, Joyce Rumsfeld, Denise Balzano, Ruth Eckerd, Aileen Train, and Beatrice Buchen).
- C. Press Plan: No press coverage.

III. TALKING POINTS

1. I want to welcome you to the White House. I know that some of you were here early this year to attend briefings on the State of the Union Message and the Budget.
2. Several of you have indicated your interest in continuing the briefings so that you are kept informed of Administration policies and initiatives. In response to these requests, Bill Baroody and Jeanne Holm have organized a briefing today, similar to the one many of your spouses attended two weeks ago.
3. We are often called upon or have the opportunity to talk to groups, the press, and friends about the Administration's programs and policies. Our views are being listened to more now than in any time in history.
4. I trust you will learn as much from these briefings as I know I will.
5. Again, welcome to the White House.

(Jeanne Holm will then introduce the speakers).
6. Following the last briefer, Mrs. Ford will invite the spouses to join her in the State Dining Room for a reception.