

For immediate release  
June 29, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

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REMARKS OF MRS. FORD at dedication of "Remember the Ladies: Women in America 1750-1815" Special Bicentennial Exhibition in Plymouth, Massachusetts, June 29, 1976:

We are in Plymouth, where the Pilgrims landed in search of religious freedom. We are here to honor the unsung women, who helped win our National independence. And in remembering them, we focus attention on the unfinished business of our Revolution---full freedom and justice for women.

Abigail Adams wrote her husband asking "remember the ladies" in the new code of laws. He replied: "Depend on it, we know better than to repeal our masculine systems."

But at long last, the repeal is underway and going strong.

Thanks to some determined ladies in 1976 and to members of the Pilgrim Society and Plymouth Antiquarian Society---many Americans will learn of the talents and achievements of the ladies in 1776. But, most of all, this exhibit about these neglected Americans should give us the strength and the courage to seek equal rights and responsibilities for women today.

I look for the day when America fully honors Abigail Adams' request, because then the promises of the Declaration of Independence will have new meaning for all Americans.

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