



# The First Ladies

**Susan Swain,C-SPAN**



## **The First Ladies:**

**The First Ladies** Marie Benedict, Victoria Christopher Murray, 2024-06-04 The Instant New York Times Bestseller A novel about the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune an unlikely friendship that changed the world from the New York Times bestselling authors of the Good Morning America Book Club pick *The Personal Librarian* The daughter of formerly enslaved parents Mary McLeod Bethune refuses to back down as white supremacists attempt to thwart her work She marches on as an activist and an educator and as her reputation grows she becomes a celebrity revered by titans of business and recognized by U S Presidents Eleanor Roosevelt herself is awestruck and eager to make her acquaintance Initially drawn together because of their shared belief in women s rights and the power of education Mary and Eleanor become fast friends confiding their secrets hopes and dreams and holding each other s hands through tragedy and triumph When Franklin Delano Roosevelt is elected president the two women begin to collaborate more closely particularly as Eleanor moves toward her own agenda separate from FDR a consequence of the devastating discovery of her husband s secret love affair Eleanor becomes a controversial First Lady for her outspokenness particularly on civil rights And when she receives threats because of her strong ties to Mary it only fuels the women s desire to fight together for justice and equality This is the story of two different yet equally formidable passionate and committed women and the way in which their singular friendship helped form the foundation for the modern civil rights movement

**American First Ladies** Lewis L. Gould, 2014-02-04 This volume presents thirty nine interpretive biographical essays on all first ladies from Martha Washington to America s newest First Lady Laura Bush This new edition contains updated material on all the living First Ladies and updated bibliographies for each entry as well as a portrait of the newest First Lady

*First Ladies* Betty Boyd Caroli, 2019-04-05 This expanded and updated fifth edition presents Caroli s keen political analysis and astute observation of recent developments in First Lady history Caroli here contributes a new preface and updated chapters

**A Companion to First Ladies** Katherine A.S. Sibley, 2016-03-14 This volume explores more than two centuries of literature on the First Ladies from Martha Washington to Michelle Obama providing the first historiographical overview of these important women in U S history Underlines the growing scholarly appreciation of the First Ladies and the evolution of the position since the 18th century Explores the impact of these women not only on White House responsibilities but on elections presidential policies social causes and in shaping their husbands legacies Brings the First Ladies into crisp historiographical focus assessing how these women and their contributions have been perceived both in popular literature and scholarly debate Provides concise biographical treatments for each First Lady

**American First Ladies** Salem Press, 2015 Provides a biographical essay on each of the First Ladies from Martha Washington to Michelle Obama including family members who served as First Lady for bachelor or widowed Presidents and includes overviews of the widely varied roles they have played

U. S. First Ladies Diana B. Carlin, Anita McBride, Nancy Kegan Smith, 2023-09-02

Filling a gap in the literature U S First Ladies Making History and Leaving Legacies examines how first ladies have been uniquely positioned to influence American society policy diplomacy and life in the White House The text explores the development and evolution of the role of first lady its rhetorical activities substantive contributions and the lasting legacies of first ladies throughout U S history Dedicated chapters trace first ladies words and actions regarding civil rights spotlight significant speeches describe challenges unique to first ladies including public perception and familial safety and speak to the monumental changes first ladies have made through the development of initiatives foundations and policies Profiles of first ladies from Martha Washington to Dr Jill Biden help students learn about the women behind the title their histories their achievements their legacies Each chapter features learning objectives key terms a chronology of significant historical events reflection opportunities and further resources to enrich the learning experience U S First Ladies is an ideal resource for courses and programs in American history American studies women s studies political science and political communication

**The First Ladies** Sol Barzman,1970 Intimate biographical portraits of the Presidents wives from Martha Washington to Pat Nixon *First Ladies of the United States* Robert P. Watson,2001 Profiles all the first ladies from the first to Laura Welch Bush detailing the childhood and education family life presidential years and achievements of each first lady *First Ladies* Betty Boyd Caroli,1995-09-28 As we move toward the year 2000 Americans continue to debate the job of First Lady How much power does the position actually hold How publicly should that power be wielded First Ladies tells the story of this curious institution and the evolution of these women s role from ceremonial backdrop to substantive world figure This expanded edition brings us up to the present examining the legacies of our three most recent First Ladies Nancy Reagan credited with raising the job to that of Associate President Barbara Bush who took a more traditional approach and Hillary Rodham Clinton widely billed as changing the job completely Covering all thirty nine women from Martha Washington to Hillary Rodham Clinton and including the daughters daughters in law and sisters of presidents who sometimes served as First Ladies Betty Boyd Caroli explores the background marriage and accomplishments and failures in office of each woman This remarkably diverse lot included Abigail Adams whose remember the ladies became a twentieth century feminist refrain Edith Wilson who alone controlled access to the President when he suffered a stroke Jane Pierce who prayed her husband would lose the election Helen Taft who insisted on living in the White House although her husband would have preferred a judgeship and Pat Nixon who perfected what some have called the robot image They ranged in age from early 20 s to late 60 s some received superb educations for their time while others had little or no schooling Including the courageous and adventurous the emotionally unstable the ambitious and the reserved these women often did not fit the traditional expectations of a presidential helpmate Depicting how these women used the magic wand given to them Caroli reveals not only how each First Lady altered the role but also how the role changed in response to American culture Because of their prominence these women left remarkably complete records and their stories offer us an insider s view not only of their lives

as holders of what sociologists now call derivative power but also of the history of American women in general     The Health of the First Ladies Ludwig M. Deppisch, M.D.,2015-01-28 This first comprehensive study of the medical histories of America s first ladies from Martha Washington to Michelle Obama discusses their illnesses their treatments and their physicians in the context of their times As the categories of illness afflicting Americans have changed through history so have the kinds of maladies affecting the first ladies Infectious diseases and the consequences of poorly supervised pregnancies have been replaced by cerebrovascular accidents and malignancies The secrecy with which the White House has traditionally handled inquiries about the health of the president s wife is explored in detail however several first ladies notably Betty Ford have been transparent about their illnesses in order to educate the public The effects of a first lady s responsibilities on her health is examined This book also seeks to discern how the well being of the first lady influences presidential performance

**First Ladies** Dorothy Schneider,Carl J. Schneider,2005 Presents a collection of chronologically arranged entries of America s first ladies from Martha Washington to Laura Bush and includes brief biographical information as well as explaining their roles and responsibilities in the White House     **Upstairs at the White House** J. B. West,Mary Lynn Kotz,1973 Provides intimate recollections from the Chief Usher of the White House of the social events life styles and decorative preferences that characterized presidential households from Roosevelt to Nixon     *American First Ladies* Lewis

L. Gould,2014-02-04 This volume presents thirty nine interpretive biographical essays on all first ladies from Martha Washington to America s newest First Lady Laura Bush This new edition contains updated material on all the living First Ladies and updated bibliographies for each entry as well as a portrait of the newest First Lady     **First Ladies of the United States** National Portrait Gallery,2020-12-01 A gorgeous publication that reveals the historical importance of first ladies through portraiture Each first lady has brought her own priorities and flair to the position that has never been officially defined They have served as hostesses trendsetters activists and political players First Ladies of the United States features 84 portraits of the nation s first ladies as varied in style and representation as the individual women they depict From watercolors and oil paintings to engravings and photographs this book celebrates the legacy of first ladies throughout history First ladies are some of the most scrutinized public figures in the country praised or criticized on everything from their fashion to their level of political involvement There s no better way to explore their visibility and lasting impact than with First Ladies of the United States which places remarkable portraits alongside an insightful essay and lively entries that illuminate the history of the women who have shaped the White House     **First Ladies** Susan Swain,C-SPAN,2015-04-14 A

look inside the personal life of every first lady in American history based on original interviews with major historians C SPAN s yearlong history series First Ladies Influence and Image featured interviews with more than fifty preeminent historians and biographers In this informative book these experts paint intimate portraits of all forty five first ladies their lives ambitions and unique partnerships with their presidential spouses Susan Swain and the C SPAN team elicit the details that made these

women who they were how Martha Washington intentionally set the standards followed by first ladies for the next century how Edith Wilson was complicit in the cover up when President Wilson became incapacitated after a stroke and how Mamie Eisenhower used the new medium of television to reinforce her and her husband's positive public images This book provides an up close historical look at these fascinating women who survived the scrutiny of the White House sometimes at great personal cost while supporting their families and famous husbands and sometimes changing history Complete with illustrations and essential biographical details it is an illuminating entertaining and ultimately inspiring read *Ranking the First Ladies* Ian Randal Strock, 2016-07-05 Have you ever wondered about the lives of the Presidential wives Much attention has been focused on the Presidents often ignoring the women who accompany them to the White House Now it's time we turn the spotlight on the First Ladies whose lives give fascinating insight into the history of our country In this trivia lover's paradise no stone is left unturned You will learn which First Ladies lived the longest which were the best educated which had the most children and which were on the other end of the spectrum You will also discover which women married their way into the White House which causes and projects the First Ladies pursued and so much more Other family members including Presidential children are also described by the numbers there is even a section on Presidential pets Brimming with lists anecdotes and more *Ranking the First Ladies* is a treasure trove for history lovers of all stripes [The Smithsonian First Ladies Collection](#) Lisa Kathleen Graddy, Amy Pastan, 2014-05-06 Admire the nationally famous collection of first ladies gowns and learn about the contributions made by the women who wore them The Smithsonian First Ladies Collection is a beautifully illustrated book inspired by one of the most popular attractions at the Smithsonian the first ladies exhibit at the National Museum of American History This striking book showcases the treasures from first ladies throughout history ranging from Martha Washington's silk dress and dressing mirror to Michelle Obama's 2009 inaugural gown and jewelry These and many other unforgettable objects including gowns tableware and invitations from beloved first ladies such as Mamie Eisenhower Jacqueline Kennedy Barbara Bush Hilary Clinton and more tell the story of the first ladies as public and private figures They illustrate how these women thrust into an influential and visible role by happenstance of marriage adapted themselves and the role of first lady by taking on responsibilities as campaigners hostesses and policy advocates The Smithsonian First Ladies Collection features many treasures not on view at the exhibit Complete with an insider's look at the acquisition conservation and exhibition of the pieces as well as a timeline of all forty six first ladies this is a must have for anyone fascinated by these incredible women and their roles in American culture and political life [Southern First Ladies](#) Katherine A. S. Sibley, 2021-01-20 Southern First Ladies explores the ways in which geographical and cultural backgrounds molded a group of influential first ladies The contributors to this volume use the lens of Southernness to define and better understand the cultural attributes characteristics actions and activism of seventeen first ladies from Martha Washington to Laura Bush The first ladies defined in this volume as Southern were either all born in the South specifically the former states

of the Confederacy or their slaveholding neighbors like Missouri or else lived in those states for a significant portion of their adult lives women like Julia Tyler Hillary Clinton and Barbara Bush Southern climes indelibly shaped these women and in turn a number of enduring White House traditions Along with the standards of proper behavior and ceremonial customs and hospitality demanded by notions of Southern white womanhood some of which they successfully resisted or subverted early first ladies including Martha Washington Dolley Madison Julia Tyler and Sarah Polk were also shaped by racially based societal and cultural constraints typical of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries some of which have persisted to the present day The first nine women in this volume from Martha Washington to Julia Grant all enslaved others during their lives inside or outside the White House Among the seven first ladies in the book s last section Ellen Wilson for example was profoundly influenced by the reformist ethos of the Progressive Era and set an example for activism that five of her Southern successors Lady Bird Johnson Rosalynn Carter Barbara Bush Hillary Clinton and Laura Bush all emulated By contrast Ellen s immediate successor in the White House Edith Wilson enthusiastically celebrated the Lost Cause Southern First Ladies is the first volume to comprehensively emphasize the significance of Southernness and a Southern background in the history and work of first ladies and Southernness long standing influence for the development of this position in the White House as well as outside of it

**First Ladies** Betty Caroli,2010-07-15 This expanded and updated fourth edition will present Caroli s keen political analysis and astute observation of recent developments in First Lady history including the last years of Laura Bush s tenure ex First Lady Hillary Clinton s historic presidential bid and Michelle Obama s remarkable first year

First Ladies Betty Boyd Caroli,2019 This expanded and updated fifth edition presents Caroli s keen political analysis and astute observation of recent developments in First Lady history Caroli here contributes a new preface and updated chapters

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