Women in American Politics: Why Women Don’t Run for Office?

Researched/Presented By: Jonesia Pearson
It’s Importance…

• Why is women’s involvement in politics important?
  o Representation in Office (Bayer & Mishler)
    • Women need the four interconnected types of representation.
  o Role Model Affect (Campbell & Wolbrechth)
    • Female role models affect the political socialization of young girls.
    • Viable female politicians inspire political discussion among young adults.
Previous Research

• Lawless and Fox 2008
  o Citizen Political Ambition Survey
    • Random national survey of 3,765 (evenly divided between genders)
    • Four professions: Law, Business, Education, and Politics
    • Two waves of mail surveys (2001, 2008)
      o Dramatic political change within 7 years
  o Findings
    • Discrimination
    • Incumbency
    • Political Ambition
    • Feeder Jobs
    • Women’s roles
Previous Research cont.

• Fox 2003
  o Conduct Survey amongst candidate ‘Eligibility Pool’
    • Three professions: Law, Business, Education
    • Questioned backgrounds, arrangements, activism, outlooks, experience, perceptions, and willingness to run for office.
  o Findings
    • Women/Men and running
    • Women and local office
    • Women’s interests
      o Income
      o Support
      o Household Obligations
      o Self-perceptions
My Research

• Pearson 2013
  o Big Question: Why women don’t run for office?
  o Case Studies
    • Hillary Clinton
    • Nancy Pelosi
    • Condoleezza Rice
    • John Kerry
    • Collin Powell
    • John Boehner
  o Researched
    • Policies
    • Media Reactions
    • Ambition
    • Recruitment
      o Feeder Jobs
Findings

- Media Reactions
- Policies
- Ambition
- Recruitment
  - Feeder Jobs