

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2012 11:08 AM
To: H
Subject: FW: Magazine - Why Women Still Can't Have It All - The Atlantic

Thought you might enjoy this - from my law professor mentor.

Start at excerpt.

cdm

-----Original Message-----

From: Barbara Babcock [mailto:]
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2012 10:56 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D; Renee.Chantler[]; as4386[]
Christine.Goodman[] rhonda.reaves[] alex_johns[]
esuhrig[] amckay[] nilesm[] freshman[]
Cc: bbabcock[]
Subject: Re: Magazine - Why Women Still Can't Have It All - The Atlantic

B6

This message from Cheryl just hit my mailbox 20 minutes ago--love it, and love being on this wonderful list of Alex's near and dear--

I'm going to paste in the first page of an article I'm writing on the subject of having it all, and guess who? Clara Foltz...



Love, Barbara

EXCERPT

WOMAN TALK Among Women, On the Road with a Role Model; Role models and having it all; Having it All

Since the publication last year of my biography of a pioneering woman lawyer, I've spoken at seventy book events -many sponsored by women, and a few with all women attendants. In settings from century old club houses to sleek Silicon Valley law firms, the same question comes from the women. They want to know how Clara Foltz did it achieve fame, engage great reforms, and raise five little children as a single mother. The eagerness and urgency of their queries touch me, they clearly need a quick fix and need it now.

Though since the late 70s women have been flocking to law schools and now comprise almost

fifty percent of the students, they are also dropping out of the profession at an alarming rate. Many women seem to be finding that they cannot combine a high powered career with the demands of the high powered parenting engaged in these days by the middle class in America. Unlike Clara Foltz in the 1870s they are unwilling to "sacrifice all the joys of their young motherhood" to career and achievement.

Whether its possible to combine motherhood with a career is a hot topic these days --but it has always loomed large in the discourse. In Clara Foltz's time, the domestic duties of women were used to bar their participation in public life altogether. Women had their own rarified but limited sphere of activity. Foltz faced the charge that she would unsex herself and all women by practicing law.

In the generation of women lawyers following the suffrage victory; and really right up to the late 60's career girls, as we were called were still not the norm. A girl who wanted to be a lawyer was thought a very odd duck indeed. For decades, though the profession was technically open to women, very few came. The percentage of hovered around 3 or 4 percent nationwide.

Then in the sixties, the second wave came on, off the civil rights movement. Women flocked to law school; overnight the percentage rose to twenty. These were a new generation indeed, demanding female teachers and coverage and recognition of their interests in the curriculum. I rode this wave into my life work as a professor, the first woman, at Stanford Law School. Even then amidst the strife and uproar of an active movement where women were moving very fast to fill all previous denied positions, even then there were many crying out that it couldn't be done it was impossible to be a great mom and a great lawyer.

Unlike some women in the late first wave of the women's movement, I did not reject motherhood, or suggest that leadership in the movement required sacrifice. I simply did not deal with it. I let the whole thing ride. My first husband did not want children, my second already had a little daughter who absorbed his parental energies. I had been like a mother to my much younger brother and found that enough. Moreover, many of my friends had young children that I enjoyed, as much as I liked handing them back when they got fussy. Indeed, I felt about little children like I did about pets: though often very dear, they are usually more trouble than they are worth.

But I would never have said these words...and indeed when other women said to me that they just

didn't have the mother gene, or thought the whole thing overrated as an experience, I shivered a little. You are showing a weakness, I thought, people will use it against you, as an unnatural woman... Childless women are still oddities, and objects of pity; like me they rush to explain that they really like children (and are quite good with them).

None of this adds up to being a good role model for the young women asking the existential question--- how can I be a good parent and a good lawyer. I do suggest, however, that one answer is not to assume you have to be a parent. This is true for men and women, but rings a little more for women because they are the ones who give a year of their total life to producing the child, and are inescapably biologically tied to it.

Clara Foltz was not a great model either....

At 02:46 AM 7/10/2012, Mills, Cheryl D wrote:

>Hey gang - since my early morning hours have
>been outed I wanted to say hello and that this
>article has generated more conv at the State
>Dept among men and women than any recent foreign policy achievements!

>
>Hope all are well.

>
>X0
>Cdm

>----- Original Message -----

>From: Chantler, Renee [mailto: [redacted]]
>Sent: Monday, July 09, 2012 03:24 PM
>To: SILVERMAN, ALEX (Legal) [redacted]
>'Chris Goodman

>([redacted]) Rhonda

>Reaves ([redacted])
>([redacted]) 'Alex Johns'
>([redacted]) Emily Uhrig
>([redacted]) 'Alexandra McKay'
>([redacted]) Mark C. Niles

>([redacted])
>Clark Freshman ([redacted]) ([redacted])

>Cc: Mills, Cheryl D;
>'bbabcock' ([redacted]) <bbabcock@ [redacted]>
>Subject: RE: Magazine - Why Women Still Can't Have It All - The Atlantic

>
>Thanks for this, Alex! It's great to see you as
>an honorary WoC keeping the faith! It was also
>great to see Cheryl's name so prominently
>included; it's been a long time but I've
>followed her success ever since she first did us
>all proud defending a President many years ago.

B6

>
> From the law firm side, I can report that
> female partners and associates alike have been
> actively discussing this article ever since it
> ran and it's fascinating to see the reactions
> to it. I'm sure we will be for a while, yet.

>Best,

>
>Renee Glover Chantler
>Pro Bono Counsel
>DLA Piper LLP (US)
>2000 University Avenue
>East Palo Alto, California 94303
>650.833.2041 T
>650.687.1218 F

[redacted] M
[redacted]

>www.dlapiper.com

>
>-----Original Message-----

>From: SILVERMAN, ALEX (Legal) [mailto:[redacted]]

>Sent: Monday, July 09, 2012 12:20 PM

>To: 'Chris Goodman

>([redacted]); Rhonda

>Reaves [redacted]; Chantler,

>Renee; 'Alex Johns'; Emily Uhrig; 'Alexandra

>McKay'; Mark C. Niles [redacted]

>Clark Freshman [redacted]

>Cc: 'mills@dstate.gov'; 'bbabcock@[redacted]

>Subject: Magazine - Why Women Still Can't Have It All - The Atlantic

>
><http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2012/07/why-women-still-can-8217-t-have-it-all/9020/>

>
>A provocative essay by one of my more successful
>Princeton undergrad classmates -- with a
>prominent mention of Cheryl Mills. Please
>forward to anyone who may be interested.

>
>
>Regards,
>Alex

B6