

oral quarrel

This week's Oral Quarrel question asked Farmington and Farmington Hills residents: Should the Democrats nominate a woman for vice president? If the answer is "yes," who should that woman be? Following are the responses:

I think she should be Geraldine Fararo.

This is the most stupid question I have ever heard. Democrats should choose the best candidate for vice president regardless if she is a woman or not. Whether this candidate is a female or male should be beside the point.

Hell no. I don't think anybody should be nominated for vice president, especially a woman, until after they are drafted or do manual labor the same as a man's job is today. Now no way do I think a woman is qualified for vice president. I don't care who it is.

Yes, the Democrats should choose a woman. She should be a Latin, Afro, American Indian (with Oriental, Scotch, Irish, English and Middle European roots). Politically she should stand for everything. Sorry, I can't give you a name.

Does it really matter? We all know that it would merely represent tokenism, insulting as that is,

In response to the stridency of the NOW group, which incidentally does not begin to represent the majority of American women or our priority. When a choice is made predicated on consideration of what might be good for the party rather than what would be best for the country, pardon my cynicism.

FOR BETTER or worse, the National Organization for Women (NOW) has set its sights on a female vice presidential candidate. It's no longer a proposal. It is a demand on Democratic nominee Walter Mondale.

It doesn't matter whether the VP candidate has good credentials or is honest. Just as long as it's a she. NOW's thinking is on a par with Archie Bunker's, who in an argument with son-in-law Mike once explained his notion of ticket balancing: "See, you get a Jew as treasurer, and then you get an Irishman as auditor to keep him honest."

Top contenders, according to the national media, are a three-term congresswoman from New York and a mayor of a medium-sized California city. One wonders if they would be contenders if they were males — especially considering that the other party's probable vice presidential nominee has been in military combat, president of a company, a congressman, envoy to China, head of the CIA, national party chairman and a presidential contender in his own right.

Opinion

Steve Barnaby editor/477-5450

(A/F)

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Women politicians needed at state level



Tim Richard

In school are female, the majority of teachers are female, the majority of community college students are female, growing numbers of community college faculty are female.

LOOK AT SOME specific issues a legislature deals with. Credit laws. Banking laws. Divorce laws. Probate laws. Child custody laws. Surrogate mother laws.

Regulation of the medical, legal and other professions that women have to deal with as customers, not to mention the growing numbers of participants.

Real estate laws. (Check the real estate agency ads in our paper and notice how many of their featured salespeople are women.)

Public transportation. (Two-thirds of transit riders are women.

When legislative candidates, particularly in Oakland County, start blowing smoke about mass transit, note the harder line taken by male candidates compared to female candidates. There's a genuine difference between the sexes on this issue, and do you know what? The females are right.)

Worker safety laws for intra-state industries, which tend to be smaller and have greater concentrations of female employees. Health insurance regulations. Sexual harassment laws.

ONE OCCUPANT of the vice presidency described it as "not worth a bucket of warm spit." Actually, a reporter changed the final word so it could be printed in a

family journal.

More than a female vice president, America needs at least a doubling or tripling of female state legislators.

Footnote: Some business types in Michigan have been pushing a constitutional amendment for a part-time legislature (PTL). They figure it would hold down spending and attract a more public-service oriented and less career-oriented kind of politician.

Certainly, the kinds of occupations represented in the Michigan Legislature would change if the job became part-time. Query: Would a part-time legislature attract more female candidates? It's worth thinking about.

Volunteer help needed

The help of professionals is needed by Farmington Youth Assistance (FYA). The service organization is sponsored by the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills, Oakland County Juvenile Court and Farmington School District.

Its aim is to reduce juvenile delinquency and enhance family life.

Interested lawyers, teachers, CPAs and those with leadership qualities are asked to contact the FYA office at 476-3840.

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