

I think that I know for me and I certainly hear it from a lot of other women, women really want to check a lot of boxes. They just feel like they don't have that background or that piece of the resume. Or oh I've been home you know, with children or caring for parents and I haven't done everything. And I see male colleagues coming in and a lot of them are very bright and very talented but they don't seem to have any or certainly far less of a degree of that second guessing. They just say I'm here, this is something I am interested in and I want to do, so I'm just going to go for it and women really want to have everything lined up.

And I think I am glad that the first couple of races I did were in the pre-twitter era because I think that does add a different scope to it. And I have heard people say I couldn't do that and women say I wouldn't want to be part of that because I wouldn't want that criticism and that anonymous hatred coming at you. They just don't want that piece of it, but there is so much more that you get from the person... you know, I was just at the grocery store today and a woman came up to me and said "You know my mom died of alzheimers and you have always been there on this issue, I just thank you so much."

I don't even remember meeting with her, but she remembered it and the difference it made to her. So I think there are negatives, definitely, and I think that women take those very much to heart, but there are also these small moments where you connect with people in a way that really is far more lasting and far more meaningful.

So I think if women get over that hump and really take the risk, they would just do such an amazing job and will find that politics is one of the most demanding, but also such a fulfilling job to do and they'd be able to do it well.