



# **The Accidental Feminist**

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# Born To Soon

- **Betty Friedan had not written the Feminine Mystique**
- **The Feminist movement began about the time I started medical school**



# Experiences Shape One's Life

- **Strong Women**
- **Ill founded assumptions about women**
- **Repeatedly being discouraged because I was a women**



# The Other Side of Feminism

- **Equal Pay**
- **Equal Opportunity**
- **Equal Work**
- **Eliminate Sexual Abuse and Harassment**
- **Change the Stereotypic roles of Women**



# Specific Events

- **Not being Promoted**
- **Sexual Abuse**
- **Denied Access to places where important discussions took place**
- **Good Old Boys' Club**



# Interesting Opportunities

- **Asked to be Associate Dean**
- **New Chair Appointed**



# Then

- **Took Dean's job**
- **Closed Lab**
- **Fired by New Chair**



# Learned a Lot

- **Chairs always win**
- **More than one way to achieve a goal**
- **More than one place to seek gratification**
- **Friends become clear**
- **Tenure Counts**



# **Attended The First Women's Leadership Workshop**

- **Sponsored by AAMC and AMWA**



# **Identify a Project to Advance the Status of Women in your Specialty and School**

- **Meet other Women Surgeons**
  - **SOS Women's Caucus**



# Data and Goals

- **Know the data on gender in the organizations you think important to successful careers**
- **Remind supportive men**
- **Have an agenda**
- **Quantify success**



# How to Be Successful

- **Mainstream**
- **Identify Advocates**
- **Be beyond reproach**
- **Learn leadership skills**
- **Try and understand the man's world in which you function**
- **“Do the Right Thing”**



# Learn The Rules

- **You don't need to follow all the rules**
- **Listen carefully ....to both sides**
- **Don't be afraid to speak the truth**
- **Make the men understand how some of the rules are inherently unfair**



# Impediments to Success

- **Queen Bee**
- **Not letting go**
- **Jealousy**
- **Expecting all women to be like you**



# Be a good loser

- **Never make a threat**
- **Own your part**
- **Turn the loss into a win**



**Celebrate Every Win !**

**Don't be fooled the Glass Ceiling is  
Lexan!**

**The Ceiling is Now Higher!**

