

3-29-2016

Karen Spilka Talking Points

Karen Spilka

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Recommended Citation

Spilka, Karen, "Karen Spilka Talking Points" (2016). *Ephemera*. 3.
<http://digitalcommons.framingham.edu/wmhn2016ephemera/3>

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Women Making History Event - FSU

March 29, 2016

Senator Karen Spilka Remarks

- Wow, what an **AMAZING event!**
- **Thank you so much** for this honor – I am **humbled and honored** to be in the company of **so many amazing women,** who have **all made a difference in our Commonwealth**
- This all seems **a bit overwhelming,** because I can tell you that **when I wake up every morning,** I **DON'T** say to myself, **“How can I make history today?”**
- **Surprising,** I know.
- What I **DO** say when I wake up every morning is, **“How can I help people today?”**
- I **started my career as a social worker,** and even though **I am now a legislator,** I believe **the REASON for my work is the same: to help people**
- And **in the course of helping people,** I have been **privileged** to **learn a little something about LEADERSHIP**
- **Leadership** begins when you realize **that all of our fates are intertwined**

- -- That we **rise together** and **fall together**
- And that, when it comes down to it, **leadership is most effective** when it comes from **a place of understanding, compassion and humility**
- **For yourself and others**
- So -- **my number one piece of advice** to any woman out there who **hopes to make history someday**
- Is to **LISTEN CAREFULLY** to the **experiences, needs and concerns of others**
- But also **TRUST YOUR GUT** and **FOLLOW YOUR INSTINCTS**
- Be **strong**, but be **kind**
- Be **smart**, and **never let anyone question your ability to make a positive contribution to your community**
- As I continue **with my work** in the **legislature** and on the **Senate Ways & Means committee, I LOOK FORWARD** to **CELEBRATING MORE WOMEN** in the Commonwealth who are **living their values, following their hearts, working hard,** and **MAKING HISTORY!**
- **Thank you.**