

HERSTORY: A LETTER FROM A DAUGHTER, SISTER, WIFE, MOTHER, GRANDMOTHER AND AUNT

During this month that has been designated as Women's History month, I wanted to direct my comments to women, which should not be too difficult since women have always played the greatest role in the development of children, especially their spiritual and educational development.

Over the years I have worked here at this center, it certainly has been women who have provided us with the greatest assistance and have been there for us when we needed help the most. We have received help from men, and we appreciate their help, but often, our main support has come from women.



Beatrice Shelby with BGA children before covid

Women have taken important leadership roles in just about every area of American life and have played a major part in our nation's progress. And there is no greater role that women have played than the role they have played in the early education of our children in preparing them to live productive lives.

I have heard people talk about home schooling as if it is something special and is done only by a certain group of people. The truth is that every child is home schooled. Whether children go to private schools or public school, their first learning starts at home and the person who does the bulk of that teaching is the mother.

It has been that way for as long as we have been keeping records. It was that way in Biblical times. In his letter to young Timothy, the Apostle Paul says to him, "When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also." **2 Timothy 1:5**

The good teachings that Paul recognized in Timothy he had seen in his mother and grandmother. Paul knew that they had been Timothy's first teachers. Mothers and grandmothers are still responsible for most of the teaching of the children. I should know, since I am both a mother and a grandmother, and so are many of you.

So, during this Women's History Month, in the spirit of the great women who have come before us, and have worked to make life better for us, I call upon you to join with me in developing the Children of Marvel. With all the things children are exposed to today, it is a challenge to keep them focused on their education. But it is a challenge we must meet because if we do not, we will lose our children and our future. And we will dishonor the legacy of the great women who came before us.