

Dos Santos and Jalalzai define their book as “a cautionary tale of a woman cracking the presidential glass ceiling in a context where men continue to dominate the political landscape” (12). Their research and book should stimulate scholars to investigate the complexities of women’s empowerment in these peculiar times in Latin America. As we praise the achievements of feminist movements, we also worry and multiply our efforts to understand and resist backlash.

Flávia Biroli is Professor of Political Science at the Institute of Political Science University of Brasília, Brazil: flaviabiroli@gmail.com

Good Reasons to Run: Women and Political Candidacy. Edited by Shauna L. Shames, Rachel I. Bernhard, Mirya R. Holman, and Dawn Langan Teele. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2020. 334 pp. \$37.95 (paper).

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Rosalyn Cooperman
University of Mary Washington

While women remain underrepresented in politics, the increased number of women running for office in recent election cycles offers a welcome opportunity to assess and update research on women’s political candidacy. *Good Reasons to Run* provides a comprehensive understanding of the complexities of women’s political candidacy from an impressive collection of rising and established gender scholars. The edited volume has a strong intersectional focus that lays bare how the barriers for women candidates are significantly higher for women of color, and it further considers how the experiences of running for office as a Republican woman are distinct from those of running as a Democrat. It also includes a much-needed comparative perspective on efforts to boost women’s political representation beyond the United States.

The volume is divided into five parts that consider different aspects of women’s candidacy. Part I takes up the question of which women run for office and how factors such as women’s race, political party affiliation, and participation in candidate training programs inform their willingness

to run. Chapter 1, by Karen O'Connor and Alixandra Yanus, examines elite political ambition and finds gender gaps in connectedness and interest in running for office among presidential electors but equal interest in holding appointed office. Chapter 2, by Rachel Bernhard and colleagues, surveys alumnae from Emerge America's candidate training programs and finds that program participants who are married white women with older children and not the family's primary income earner are most likely to run for office. In Chapter 3, Malliga Och discusses how women who run for office as Republicans are less likely than Democratic women to rely on gendered networks of campaign finance and candidate training. In Chapter 4, Jamil Scott and colleagues examine how women of color present themselves to and engage with voters with a case study on voting rights activist Stacey Abrams and her 2018 gubernatorial bid in Georgia.

Part II investigates how women's strengths as problem-solvers and policy innovators enhance their candidacy and officeholding. In Chapter 5, Sue Thomas and Catherine Wineinger detail how the gender gap in political ambition vanishes when women see officeholding as a way to fix social problems and improve their communities. In Chapters 6 and 7, Rebecca Deen and Beth Anne Shelton, and Cecilia Hyunjung Mo and Georgia Anderson-Nilsson, consider the value of public service — on citizen advisory boards and as educators with Teach for America, respectively — on future decisions to run for office.

Part III assesses the barriers that conspire to suppress women's political candidacy. Chapter 8, by Heather Ondercin, shows how geographic location informs where women emerge as candidates, while Chapter 9, by Alejandra Gimenez Aldridge and colleagues, demonstrates the importance of supportive messages from state party leaders in recruiting women to serve in party organizations. In Chapter 10, Nadia Brown and Pearl Dowe again consider the role of political parties but in this instance to demonstrate how parties, especially the Democratic Party, overlook Black women as prospective candidates. They show that women's candidate training programs can fill the void left by parties' recruiting failures. In Chapter 11, Chris Bonneau and Kristin Kanthak explore the sharp uptick in (mostly Democratic) women's political candidacy and find that policy considerations, not increased political ambition, fueled women's decisions to run.

Part IV evaluates the work of nonprofit organizations in training and helping women run for office. In Chapter 12, Rebecca Kreitzer and Tracy Osborn share results from a census of U.S. women's campaign groups and find that while most groups are nonpartisan, their expectation

of a pro-choice policy stance from women participants directs their training to women who run as Democrats. In Chapters 13 and 14, Kelly Dittmar and Kira Sanbonmatsu, and Monica Schneider and Jennie Sweet Cushman, each evaluate the nonpartisan Ready to Run training program and find that this program is particularly helpful in providing networking and peer mentoring opportunities for women and educating them about the political and electoral process, respectively. Chapter 15, by Jennifer Piscopo, provides a comparative analysis of candidate training programs and their value in drawing attention to explicitly including women in the political process in countries where women have fewer opportunities to self-select as candidates.

Part V considers the importance of money to women's campaigns. In Chapter 16, Michele Swers and Danielle Thomsen detail the importance of gender to Democratic candidates and donors and corresponding lack of importance for Republican candidates and donors. Chapter 17, by Martha Johnson, explores the benefit of directing resources to support women's campaign training in Benin. And, in Chapter 18, Jaclyn Kettler shows how women donors are more likely to direct contributions to women candidates, particularly those running in open seats.

Good Reasons to Run will be of tremendous interest and value to anyone wishing to better understand women's political candidacy and the challenges and opportunities they will encounter in future election cycles. As a collective work, this volume embraces an array of diverse methodological approaches that are useful for graduate courses on campaigns and elections or gender and politics. Further, the writing and explanation of research is accessible for undergraduate versions of these courses.

This book was published after the 2018 election that ushered in the largest, most diverse class of Democratic women members of Congress but before the 2020 election that marked two milestones: the election of Democratic senator Kamala Harris as vice president of the United States, and the election of the largest, most diverse class of Republican women members of Congress. *Good Reasons to Run* encourages scholars to move forward with the next round of research in this area, including the matters of whether Republican women candidates and officeholders can sustain the momentum they enjoyed in 2020, how women of color engage with voters and parties to expand their numbers, and the role played by women's candidate training groups and campaign finance networks to prepare more women to run for office and help fund their campaigns. The volume contributes meaningfully to our understanding of political

candidacy and gender and demonstrates the value of asking relevant questions about the factors that give women a good reason to run for office.

Rosalyn Cooperman is Professor in the Department of Political Science and International Affairs at University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia: rcooperm@umw.edu

Book Review: Feminist Criticism and the Joy of Democracy

***Shell-Shocked: Feminist Criticism after Trump.* By Bonnie Honig. New York: Fordham University Press, 2021. 272 pp. \$90.00 (Hardcover).**

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Liza Taylor
Elon University

Bonnie Honig's *Shell-Shocked* provides a much-needed space of *active* refuge for those who have suffered under Donald Trump's presidency and multiple campaign seasons. Far from a calm read, this book ignites your senses, provokes your passions, and encourages the rapid intellectual unraveling necessary to keep pace with the hourly onslaught of Trump's abusive shock politics. And yet, bearing witness to Honig's brilliant unraveling (her skill of connecting the dots within the chaos) is deeply satisfying, nourishing even.

The purpose of *Shell-Shocked* is to analyze "Trumpism" — the name Honig gives to America's "pre-existing conditions" of misogyny, xenophobia, and racism (xiii) — and its reliance on "shock politics." The power of shock, Honig notes, lies in its "seeming implacability" (xvi). She invites us to consider how the American public was quite literally thrown into a state of "shellshock" by Trump's deliberate and unrelenting flooding of the airwaves. As she explains it, "shock politics" functions as a "disorientation" and "desensitization" "two-step" (14). This "assault on the senses" begins with sensory deprivation, followed by sensory saturation. The isolation typical of sensory deprivation was achieved by Trump's constant tweeting, which "diminishes the space of refuge" by forcing us