

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Hillary Rodham Clinton is the first former First Lady to be elected to public office. She was elected to the New York State Senate in 2000, and she is currently a candidate in the 2008 presidential election.

As a child in Illinois, Hillary Rodham was involved in many activities. She was a girl scout and a member of the student council and National Honor Society at her high school. She played sports as well. Hillary attended Wellesley College from 1965-1969 and was the first student in the college's history to give the graduation speech. After graduating from Wellesley, Hillary went to Yale Law School, where she met and began dating Bill Clinton. Hillary Rodham and Bill Clinton were married in 1975, but Hillary did not change her last name right away. The couple moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, where Bill ran for congress. President Jimmy Carter appointed Hillary to the Legal Services Corporation in 1978, and in 1979, Bill Clinton became governor of Arkansas.

Hillary Rodham was First Lady of Arkansas for twelve years. She had a daughter, Chelsea, in 1980. In 1982, Hillary Rodham began to use the last name Clinton. As First Lady of Arkansas, Hillary Clinton worked to improve education. She was named Arkansas Woman of the Year in 1983 and Arkansas Mother of the Year in 1984. She continued to practice law as a member of the Rose Law Firm while she was First Lady of Arkansas.

In 1992, Bill Clinton became a candidate for President of the United States. When Bill took office as president in January 1993, Hillary Rodham Clinton became the first First Lady of the United States to have an advanced degree and her own career. President Clinton appointed her head of the Task Force on National Health Care Reform. She hosted many conferences at the White House on issues related to health care, education and school safety. She was also active in working for women's rights. Hillary Clinton also helped to set up a program called Save America's Treasures that helps to preserve items and places that are important parts of American History. For example, the flag that inspired Francis Scot Key to write the Star Spangled Banner was preserved by the project, and a First Ladies Historic Site was set up in Canton, Ohio.

Name _____

Date _____

Hillary Rodham Clinton (cont'd)

In 1998, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York announced that he was going to retire. Hillary Clinton's supporters suggested that she run for Senate to replace Moynihan. Although she had never lived in New York, Hillary decided to run. She visited every county in the state to hear what the people had to say. Even though some people thought she should not be running because she had never lived in New York, Hillary Clinton won the election and became a United States Senator on January 3, 2001.

As a member of the senate, Hillary Rodham Clinton is on five committees. They are the Committee on Armed Services; the Committee on Budget; the Committee on Environment and Public Works; the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; and the Special Committee on Aging. She was elected to a second term that began in 2007, and she also announced that she would run for President in 2008.

Hillary Rodham Clinton Questions

1. Hillary Clinton is
 - a. a former First Lady.
 - b. a United States Senator.
 - c. a candidate for President of the United States.
 - d. All of these

2. What is Hillary Clinton's maiden name?

3. When Hillary married Bill Clinton, what did she not do right away?

4. Before becoming First Lady, Hillary was
 - a. a housewife.
 - b. a lawyer.
 - c. a business owner.
 - d. a librarian.

5. Where did Hillary meet Bill Clinton?
 - a. at Wellesley College.
 - b. in law school.
 - c. at a political rally.
 - d. in her town's public library.

Hillary Rodham Clinton Questions (cont'd)

6. In the 1980's, Hillary Clinton was First Lady of the state of
 - a. Alabama.
 - b. Arizona.
 - c. Arkansas.
 - d. Massachusetts.

7. As First Lady of the United States, Hillary Clinton was
 - a. the first First Lady with an advanced degree.
 - b. the first First Lady with her own career.
 - c. appointed head of the Task Force on National Health Care Reform by her husband.
 - d. All of these

8. Hillary Clinton ran for the U.S. senate in
 - a. Alabama.
 - b. Arkansas.
 - c. New York.
 - d. New Jersey.

9. Name one of the senate committees on which Hillary Clinton serves.

10. Do you think Hillary Clinton would be a good President? Why or why not?

Name _____



Date _____

Hillary Rodham Clinton Answers

1. d
2. Rodham
3. She did not change her last name.
4. b
5. b
6. c
7. d
8. c
9. Committee on Armed Services; Committee on Budget;
Committee on Environment and Public Works; Committee on
Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; or Special Committee
on Aging
10. Answers will vary.