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ho are the most important women in America today? What kind of power and influence do they wield? The women here—chosen by the editors of Ladies' Home Journal—are a fascinating, sometimes surprising group that reflects the multifaceted, still-evolving role of

By the editors of Ladies' Home Journal

women on the eve of the 1990s. They are stars in traditional fields for women as well as trailblazers in several professions. The *Journal* first compiled such a list in 1983, and we were especially curious to see how the 1988 version might differ. One immediate observation was that today there are so many more women who could be considered for this list. We also found that twenty-seven of our winners this year were on our 1983 list—women who continue to earn the label "outstanding." As we reluctantly pared down our master list to *(continued)*



The jewel

of New York

BROOKE ASTOR





JULIA CHILD A recipe for success







Fifty and looking fabulous



ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

Working for equality

MARY DECKER SLANEY Running into the record books



JANE PAULEY

■ The world

is her beat

problem-solver

DAWN STEEL Movie mogul



PATRICIA SCHROEDER

Madame Justice

BARBRA STREISAND Renaissance woman



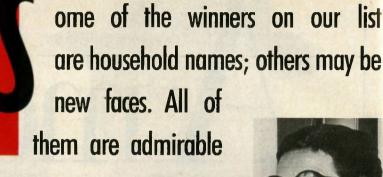
A life in fashion







Queen of the talk shows





ERMA BOMBECK Still tickling America's funnybone



MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN **■** Righting America's wrongs



ROSABETH MOSS KANTER Harvard's business

space

MATHILDE KRIM Finding a cure for AIDS



JEANE KIRKPATRICK A voice for

the right



Promoting interfaith understanding **OPRAH WINFREY**

This section was compiled by Shana Aborn, Cathy Burke Nelly Edmondson, Jane Farrell, Pam Guthrie, Judith Kel-man, Dean Lamanna, Shirley Longshore, Irene Nyborg-Andersen, Carol Perkin and Linda Peterson

(continued) one hundred names, we

fully realized the delicacy of our

task. What, after all, is the differ-

ence between woman 100 and

woman 101? We also decided that

our current First Lady would, in this

election month, be eclipsed by the

woman about to replace her. So

neither she nor the two contenders

How did we find our candi-

dates? The Journal spent several

months researching the accom-

plishments of women who hold

influential posts in business, the arts, law and politics, science, me-

dia and entertainment, sports, edu-

cation, religion, public service and

philanthropy. We called profes-

sional societies and trade organiza-

tions and read journals, newspa-

pers, annual reports and lists of

award winners. We looked for

women who are newsworthy and

noteworthy. Some are leaders we

admire; others influence our attitudes and lifestyles. All are achiev-

ers, committed to issues that

affect all women, and many active-

ly help other women to succeed.

We hope you'll agree that they are

important, impressive and inspiring.

were included on our final list.



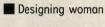
ELIZABETH DOLE

party politics

A shining light in



LIZ CLAIBORNE





JANE FONDA

DONNA KARAN

ELIZABETH TAYLOR

