

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Class of 1965

- U.S. Secretary of State
- U.S. Senator for New York
- First Lady of the United States



A member of Maine South's inaugural graduating class, Hillary Rodham Clinton has undoubtedly become the most widely recognized individual from the Maine South community. In her roles as Secretary of State, Senator, First Lady of the United States, First Lady of Arkansas, attorney, author, and activist, Hillary has accomplished more in securing justice for women and children, recognizing the rights of minorities and the disenfranchised, and advocating for international peace than most people could possibly dream of attempting.

Visiting 79 countries during the late 1990s, Hillary became the most-traveled First Lady in American history. Warmly received on her visits, she nonetheless was troubled by the plight of women she witnessed. At the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, defying pressures to soften her messages, Hillary stated, "...human rights are women's rights and women's rights are human rights, once and for all." Her message echoed forth. From that time forward, she has continued to speak out strongly against the abuse of women while encouraging women to make themselves heard in the political processes of their countries.

As a member of Congress, Hillary consistently championed for the oppressed and needy. She has continued to advocate for universal health care, protecting the rights of all families and children, and securing educational opportunities. On the world's stage, as Secretary of State, she has been honored for her commitment and visionary approach to ending global hunger. Her people-to-people diplomacy while negotiating for peace and reconciliation among fractious groups, most notably in the Middle East, restored international faith in the United States. With intelligence, drive, and perseverance—the foundations of which she credits to Maine Township schools—Hillary has deftly built new relationships and managed old ones on behalf of the United States and the people of the world.

Throughout her journeys into the upper echelons of government and world affairs, in a simple way, Hillary has affirmed that "it takes a village to raise a child."

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