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RESULTS OF SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE POLL OF HISTORIANS RANKING THE
FIRST LADIES OF THE UNITED STATES

OVERALL RANK (in 42)*	HUSBANDS' RANK (in 39)*	NAME	SCORE →
1	1	Eleanor Roosevelt	93.3
2	10	Abigail Adams	84.6
3	14	Lady Bird Johnson	77.5
4	9	Dolley Madison	75.4
5	33	Rosalynn Carter	73.8
6	23	Betty Ford	73.4
7	6	Edith Wilson	71.8
8	8	Jacqueline Kennedy	69.5
9	4	Martha Washington	67.5
10	5	Edith Roosevelt	65.4
11	27	Lou Hoover	63.5
12	22	Lucy Hayes	63.1
13	18	Frances Cleveland	62.3
14	17	Louisa Adams	62.0
15	7	Bess Truman	61.7
16	6	Ellen Wilson	61.5

17	30	Grace Coolidge	61.3
18	2	Martha Jefferson Randolph (daughter of widower, Thomas Jefferson)	61.0
19	20	Helen Taft	61.0
20	36	Julia Grant	60.7
21	38	Eliza Johnson	60.7
22	12	Sarah Polk	60.5
23	26	Anna Harrison	60.1
24	15	Elizabeth Monroe	60.1
25	24	Mary Arthur McElroy (sister of Chester Arthur)	60.1
26	13	Emily Donelson (niece of Andrew Jackson)	60.0
27	34	Julia Tyler	59.9
28	32	Abigail Fillmore	59.8
29	37	Harriet Lane (niece of bachelor James Buchanan)	59.8
30	25	Lucretia Garfield	59.8
31	11	Mamie Eisenhower	59.7
32	38	Martha Patterson (daughter of Andrew Johnson)	59.6
33	29	Margaret Taylor	59.4

34	31	Caroline Harrison	59.4
35	34	Letitia Tyler	59.3
36	21	Angelica Van Buren (daughter-in-law of Martin Van Buren)	59.3
37	28	Pat Nixon	58.5
38	35	Jane Pierce	57.6
39	16	Nancy Reagan	57.4
40	19	Ida McKinley	57.0
41	39	Florence Harding	55.8
42	3	Mary Lincoln	52.9

* In the Tyler and Wilson administrations, the first wife of the respective Presidents died and both men remarried while in office. In the Andrew Johnson presidency, both his wife and daughter served as First Lady. As a result, the total of First Ladies outnumbers that of Presidents.

This poll was conducted in ¹⁹⁸²~~1991~~ by Professors Thomas Kelly and Douglas Lonnstrom, Directors of the Siena Research Institute, Siena College, Loudonville, New York. History professors in ¹⁰²~~92~~ colleges were asked to rate the First Ladies. In another poll, also conducted by the Siena Research Institute ^{IN 1981}~~[at the same time]~~, political scientists and historians were asked to rank Presidents on a different scale (See

results in Appendix III). The list above represents a merging of the results of the two polls, with scores rounded to the nearest tenth of one percent. It should be emphasized that both polls were conducted early in the first Reagan administration. No explanation was given for including some women who served as First Lady, although not actually married to a President (such as Mary Arthur McElroy, the sister of Chester Arthur) and excluding others (such as Rose Cleveland, the sister of Grover Cleveland.) The author is grateful to the Siena Research Institute for sharing this data.

Results of Siena Research Institute Poll of Historians, ranking the First Ladies of the United States. The table below isolates twentieth century First Ladies.

Overall Rank-Score	Name	Ratings on individual questions								
		Background	Value to Country	Integrity	Leadership	Intelligence	Outstanding Woman	Accomplishments	Courage	Public Image
1. (93.3)	Eleanor Roosevelt	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
2. (77.5)	Lady Bird Johnson	3	2	5	2	2	3	2	3	3
3. (73.8)	Rosalynn Carter	7	4	3	3	3	4	4	5	1
4. (73.4)	Betty Ford	9	5	2	5	5	2	5	2	5
5. (71.8)	Edith Wilson	5	3	8	4	4	5	3	4	11
6. (69.5)	Jacqueline Kennedy	2	6	17	6	6	6	6		7
7. (65.4)	Edith Roosevelt	4	7	7	7	8	9	7	8	9
8. (63.5)	Lou Hoover	6	8	6	9	7	8	8	10	12
9. (61.7)	Bess Truman	16	10	4	17	13	13	13	9	9
10. (61.5)	Ellen Wilson	8	9	11	10	9	11	11	11	13
11. (61.3)	Grace Coolidge	12	11	10	11	11	12	10	13	8
12. (61.0)	Helen Taft	10	12	13	8	10	7	9	12	14
13. (59.7)	Mamie Eisenhower	13	13	9	15	17	16	14	14	6
14. (58.5)	Pat Nixon	15	15	12	16	12	17	16	7	10
15. (57.4)	Nancy Reagan	11	17	15	14	14	15	17	15	17
16. (57.0)	Ida McKinley	14	14	14	13	15	14	12	16	15
17. (55.8)	Florence Harding	17	16	16	12	16	10	15	17	16

Results of poll conducted in ¹⁹⁸² 1981 by Professors Thomas Kelly and Douglas Lonnstrom, Directors of the Siena Research Institute, Siena College, Loudonville, New York. History professors in ¹¹² 92 colleges were asked to rank First Ladies. The professors came from 57 northern colleges and 45 southern colleges; they included 67 male professors and 29 female professors. It should be emphasized that the poll was conducted early in the first Reagan administration. The author is grateful to the Siena