

Command ==>

SCROLL ==> PAGE

July 7
1994

Barbara: Please desist from bullying Shoshana, IN BLOCK CAPITALS, about "sexist Chicago." You are a reasonable person, I know, and will surely want to note sexist Harvard, sexist MIT, sexist Massachusetts, sexist NYU, sexist Cambridge, sexist Stanford, sexist Illinois, and so forth. There is no case, none, zero, to be made that the Chicago School is more sexist than the X School. Chicago comes in sexist and nonsexist colors. For instance Theodore Schultz, who was hiring and encouraging in every way women economists in the 1930s. It's from him and from his colleague at Iowa State and Chicago, Margaret Reid, that I learned to respect the American tradition in home economics, which invented "Becker" style home economic before Becker was out of diapers. And from him and Jean Bowman I (and Shoshana) learned the importance of education of women for economic growth. For that matter I could instance Milton, but that would so enrage people who get their political economy pre-digested that I will not even mention him in this connection.

The world is not simple. It does not happen to be so that the people one most admires for their politics are also the people with the most admirable views on The Woman Question. It's a mathematical point: you can't maximize more than one thing at a time. And it's a

vm A

#

14 01

Command ==>

SCROLL ==> PAGE

point of human wisdom, as Montaigne said in a less statistical way, that no human characteristic is reliably correlated with another. It does not line up this way: conservative = anti-feminist = stupid. Life would be simpler if it were true.

Don McCloskey

***** Bottom Of Data *****