

With the end of the movement of the 60s and with real economic changes, the conservative reaction came in, which was spearheaded in the US by the Reagan administration. And so what progressive ideas had to do – instead of trying to advance, they were simply trying to defend themselves. Feminism being the best example of the backlash – or the apparent backlash against feminism – ideas that were seen by many as justifiable now had to justify themselves.

And mental patients' issues – which was a very very minor part, it was almost invisible, in fact 99% of people who were in the movement even didn't know about it. But it was somehow piggy-backed on women's liberation and gay liberation and other movements. And and so with the conservative swing that began in the mid to late 70s and was consolidated in the 80s, that mental patients issues became, not just on the back burner, but off the stove entirely. And I view that with a lot of personal torment... because I see that what happened... there were a lot of things I wanted MPA to accomplish and it did accomplish a lot of things. It provided housing for a lot of people. It provided a community for a lot of people. But on the political stage I wanted it to see a real cut into the stigma of mental illness. And I think the stigma now is greater than it was then. In fact I'm sure of its greater now than it was then.