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For me, a better democracy is a democracy where women do not only have the right to vote and to elect but to be elected.

~Michelle Bachelet

As more and more women, men and young people raise their voices and become active in local government, and more local leaders take action for the safety of women and girls, change happens.

~Michelle Bachelet

The respect for human rights is nowadays not so much a matter of having international standards, but rather questions of compliance with those standards.

~Michelle Bachelet

Violence ravaged my life. I was a victim of hatred, and I have dedicated my life to reversing that hatred.

~Michelle Bachelet

You have to be doing things that matter - responsibility, but also responsibility with epic and beautiful and noble tasks.

~Michelle Bachelet

My message to women is: Women: We can do it. We are capable of doing almost anything, but we must learn we cannot do it all at once, we need to prioritize.

~Michelle Bachelet

I believe that if you want to fight inequality you have to do it starting at infancy.

~Michelle Bachelet

Given political history in Chile, it seemed to me that there was a critical task of consolidating a democracy and creating healthy civic-military and political-military relationships.

~Michelle Bachelet

I was a woman, a divorcee, a socialist, an agnostic . . . all possible sins together.

~Michelle Bachelet

Gender equality will only be reached if we are able to empower women.

~Michelle Bachelet

In today's interdependent world, a threat to one becomes a menace to all. And no state can defeat these challenges and threats alone.

~Michelle Bachelet

Gender equality must become a lived reality.

~Michelle Bachelet

In some places women have all the rights they deserve and in others there are big restrictions - in some countries they even mutilate women.

~Michelle Bachelet

Violence against women in all its forms is a human rights violation. It's not something that any culture, religion or tradition propagates.

~Michelle Bachelet

I took a gamble to exercise leadership without losing my feminine nature.

~Michelle Bachelet

My top priority for 2012 will be to make a renewed push for women's economic empowerment and political participation.

~Michelle Bachelet

People see I am a mother and head of a household. Today in Chile, one-third of households are run by women. They wake up, take the children to school, go to work. To them I am hope.

~Michelle Bachelet

In artillery exercises, women always win because they're more accurate.

~Michelle Bachelet

There is no city or country in the world where women and girls live free of the fear of violence. No leader can claim: this is not happening in my backyard.

~Michelle Bachelet

You all want to know what is my dream? Very simple. To walk along the beach, holding the hand of my lover.

~Michelle Bachelet

Having been a head of state gives you the possibility of getting into places others can't go.

~Michelle Bachelet

The priority for my government is that there will be development for everyone, equally.

~Michelle Bachelet

As the old joke goes, I have all the sins together. I am a woman, a Socialist, separated and agnostic.

~Michelle Bachelet

I'm working for the women in the world, today; that's my essential issue.

~Michelle Bachelet

The 2010 global gender gap report by the World Economic Forum shows that countries with better gender equality have faster-growing, more competitive economies.

~Michelle Bachelet

Chile has changed. The people have become more mature and they are more conscious of their rights. They want to participate and have a say about things such as if and where a power plant can be built.

~Michelle Bachelet

It isn't that women are less ambitious, but women want to find a balance between work, love, and family.

~Michelle Bachelet

Today it is time to give the government a new lease of life and this new phase which is as demanding as it is inspiring requires renovated energy and new faces.

~Michelle Bachelet

By including women in decision-making, city governments will be in a better position to fulfill their responsibility to ensure the safety of their residents, especially women and girls.

~Michelle Bachelet

In any area of the UN we ... have to agree on certain language that can represent the same spirit, but that can be accepted by everyone.

~Michelle Bachelet

The change of the binominal system is without a doubt, a great advancement, it will allow us to be better represented and have better ideas.

~Michelle Bachelet

I am a woman with a calling for social struggle and public service.

~Michelle Bachelet

There does not have to be trade-off between growth and social protection. A democracy does not mean much if it doesn't respond to the needs and will of its people.

~Michelle Bachelet

We have to make sure that women's issues are an essential element on the agendas of all heads of state, all governments.

~Michelle Bachelet

Women say that my election represents a cultural break with the past - a past of sexism, of misogyny.

~Michelle Bachelet

Chile needs to unite behind the goals of reducing poverty and creating more equal opportunities so that everyone can benefit from what the country has to offer.

~Michelle Bachelet

The current global landscape is quite different from the not-too-distant past. The process of globalization has intensified, and the world is moving towards new forms of governance.

~Michelle Bachelet

We have had scarce investment in women... One of my tasks is that everyone spends much more on women.

~Michelle Bachelet

The United Nations should become a proactive agent in the dissemination of democratic principles.

~Michelle Bachelet

I was not born in a home where there were stereotypes. So that was

very useful because it gave me the sense of possibilities, of flying, if I may say, of making my hopes and dreams a reality.

~Michelle Bachelet

I don't like stereotypes - no kind of stereotypes.

~Michelle Bachelet

As a major economic force worldwide, India and Indian companies have the opportunity to set the standards in Asia in terms of women's right to decent work.

~Michelle Bachelet

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