

Michelle Obama

Michelle was born on January 17, 1964, in Chicago, Illinois. She was always known to be gifted; she attended a gifted magnet (specialized) high school and graduated cum laude from Princeton with a B.A. in Sociology, then got her J.D. from Harvard Law. At Harvard, she advocated for hiring more minority professors and admitting more minority students.



After getting her law degree, Michelle moved back to Chicago where she worked as a lawyer, but later left corporate law to practice in public service. She was the executive director of Public Allies in Chicago, a nonprofit advocating for education and leadership skills for young people wanting to work in the public sector. She then became the Associate Dean of Student Services at the University of Chicago and implemented the first-ever community service program. Following her



achievements at her previous jobs, Michelle took up a position at the University of Chicago Hospitals directing internal and external affairs. In 2007, Michelle took a step back from full-time employment to help her husband, Barack, with his campaign for POTUS and used her position as FLOTUS to advocate for education, particularly for young women.

Becoming FLOTUS was a historical moment as Michelle Obama became the first Black FLOTUS in American history. She implemented her famous Let's Move! program advocating for healthier food in schools, eliminating food deserts, and bringing healthy and fresh food to underserved and impoverished communities. She also led the "Reach Higher Initiative" in an effort to help young people understand job opportunities and the necessary skills to succeed in them. Malia and Sasha Obama are Michelle's most significant accomplishments; Michelle and Barack's parenting approach was to raise them to be educated, kind, and to know that Black women can achieve anything.



The release of Michelle's book, *Becoming*, in 2018 was an internet-breaking moment, and the book became one of the best-selling books of all time. In her Tuskegee University commencement speech, she addressed the challenges of being the first Black FLOTUS and encouraged the graduates to always push for what they deserved. One of Michelle's most famous moments is her quote pushing us to always be better than our adversaries: "when they go low, we go high." Michelle's impact on Americans made her a pop culture icon, connecting to the younger generation in a unique way and shining a spotlight on Black excellence.