

# Speech at the Iris-Melvin wedding reception

Senator Spark M. Matsunaga Papers

Senate, Public relations, Speeches, Organizations, Box PR72, Folder 63

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IRIS-MELVIN WEDDING RECEPTION  
REMARKS OF THE HONORABLE SPARK M. MATSUNAGA  
UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN FROM HAWAII  
AT RECEPTION FOLLOWING WEDDING OF  
IRIS KINOSHITA AND MELVIN HAMANO  
PRINCESS KAIULANI HOTEL, AINAHAU BALLROOM  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1976

MR. AND MRS. MELVIN HAMANO, PARENTS OF THE BRIDE--

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT KINOSHITA, PARENTS OF THE BRIDEGROOM--

MR. AND MRS. JAMES HAMANO, AND WELL-WISHERS OF THE NEWLY

MARRIED COUPLE:

THE MARRIAGE CUSTOM OF HAVING THE BRIDE TOSS HER  
BOUQUET TO UNMARRIED GIRLS IS ONE THAT DATES BACK TO MEDIEVAL  
TIMES. IN THOSE DAYS, HOWEVER, INSTEAD OF A BOUQUET THE  
BRIDE THREW A GARTER OR STOCKING, AND THE LUCKY GIRL WHO  
CAUGHT IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE NEXT IN THE GROUP TO BE MARRIED.

TODAY, YOUNG LADIES HAVE DISCOVERED A MORE CERTAIN  
WAY OF BECOMING A BRIDE--BY WORKING IN MY CONGRESSIONAL  
OFFICE. IRIS WORKED IN MY WASHINGTON OFFICE IN 1971, FIRST  
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A MONTH AGO, ANOTHER YOUNG LADY IN MY WASHINGTON OFFICE GOT MARRIED. I HAVE NOT YET BEEN INFORMED AS TO WHO AMONG MY SECRETARIES IS GOING TO GET MARRIED NEXT, BUT I UNDERSTAND THAT VALENTINE'S DAY IS A POPULAR WEDDING DAY.

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TAKE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE WEDDING RING. WE KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT IT SERVES AS A REMINDER OF THE COUPLE'S MARRIAGE VOWS, BUT WHY IS THE RING WORN ON THE THIRD FINGER OF THE LEFT HAND?

WELL, IT WAS ONCE BELIEVED THAT A VEIN OR NERVE IN THIS FINGER, UNLIKE VEINS OR NERVES IN OTHER FINGERS, LED DIRECTLY TO THE HEART. THUS, A DIRECT CONNECTION WAS

ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE RING, REPRESENTING THE MARRIAGE VOWS,  
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WE KNOW THAT TODAY THE BEST MAN DOES SERVE A VERY  
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THE MODERN AMERICAN BRIDE DOES NOT HAVE A SIXPENCE COIN TO PLACE IN HER SHOE, BUT SHE MAKES IT A POINT TO WEAR THE OTHER THINGS TO INSURE HER LUCK.

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