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LETTER FROM THE EDITORIAL STAFF

Dear Reader,

We have the distinct honor of introducing the second edition of Willamette University's Social Justice and Equity Law Journal (the *Journal*). As our second edition, I am overcome with the honor of upholding this new journal and am excited to see what is to come for the *Journal*.

The *Journal* was formed with one mission: to create an interdisciplinary academic forum in Oregon for scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and students to contribute to society's understanding of legal and policy issues concerning social justice and equity. Out of that concerted effort we proudly bring to you that academic forum via this *Journal's* second edition. This issue highlights issues of race and gender; we hope for our next issues to be published to focus on a particular theme of social justice and equity.

In our first article, entitled: *Janet Halley and the Art of Status Quo Maintenance* author Lama Abu Odeh, JD Professor at Georgetown, discusses Title IX policies and the feminist theories of Halley in contrast to Catherine Mackinnon, Duncan Kennedy, and Judith Butler. Professor Odeh's analyzes the way these authors differing theories of sex and gender; she argues that Halley has five themes of "misrecognition" in her "Queer Theory" concluding that sole Mackinnon's social theory is worthy of leftist embrace.

In our second article, *Fisher v. Texas: The Future of Race-Conscious Admissions Programs* author Suzanne Eckes, JD Professor at Indiana University, discusses the element of race and what a huge factor it still place in the education system. Ms. Eckes discusses the legal background of affirmative action or race-conscious admissions into institutions of higher education as well as providing her theory of future race-conscious admissions plans in universities.

In our third article, *Detainment in US and Australia* author Corrine Cole, JD, compares and contrast the social justice, equity and policy differences between the United States and Australia.

In our first student note, *El Peligro De Ser Igual The Danger of Being the "Same"*, author Ernie Mejia directs our attention at a little-documented form of discrimination that plagues those of us not from the dominant culture. Mr. Mejia brings his Latino culture to his article through his use of both English and Spanish throughout, comparing and contrasting "sameness" arguments made in *Mendes v. Westminster* and those made by the LGBT community.

In our second student note, *I'm a Slave 4U: The Anti-Patriarchal view of BDSM in Rape and Domestic Violence Allegations*, Kimberlyn Securo discusses the stereotypes and discrimination faced by those who participate in bondage, discipline, dominance, submission, sadism and or masochism. Ms. Securo discusses the importance of creating further legal safety nets for those who participate in BDSM when sexual activities transition from consensual to non-consensual sex.

Finally, in our last piece, a student note titled, *The Dream Act*, Adin Johnson conveys the history of this bill. Mr. Johnson discusses the impact of media on the American perspective of immigrants and argues for the implementation of a DREAM Act-like bill.

We, Co-Editors-in-Chief of the *Journal*, are proud to bring this second edition to you and to the state of Oregon. We hope that this work of academia can foster discussions of change in the name of social justice and equity for all.

Sincerely,

Andy Blevins & Megan Irinaga
Editors-in-Chief

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The editorial staff of the Willamette University Social Justice and Equity Law Journal extend their gratitude to Professor Steven K. Green, Fred H. Paulus Professor of Law at Willamette University. Professor Green served as the law review's faculty advisor, and continues to serve as an inspirational mentor for students dedicated to the pursuit of social justice.

The editorial staff also appreciate the contributions and guidance of Ms. Galin Brown, Access Services Manager of the Willamette University College of Law Library, and Ms. Mary Rumsey, Reference & Instructional Services Librarian of the Willamette University College of Law Library.

Finally, the editorial staff would like to extend their most profound appreciation and gratitude to Felipe Rendon, founding Editor-in-Chief of this journal. Absent his tireless dedication and devotion, this publication would not exist to help address legal issues that are often overlooked by mainstream academia.