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Letter to our Readers

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LETTER TO OUR READERS

We are pleased to present you with the *DePaul Journal of Women, Gender & the Law*'s spring 2011 inaugural issue. Our *Journal* is committed to public service and social justice by providing a forum for the discussion of legal, social, and political issues impacting women and the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgendered/Queer (LGBTQ) communities.

The launch of the *Journal* could not be more timely. Despite great strides forward, policies and practices of marginalization on the basis of sex and gender keep women and the LGBTQ communities economically oppressed, and socially and politically disenfranchised.¹ Because of national and international economic changes, the poverty rate of women in communities worldwide is increasing.² However, for the second time in history, the U.S. government has a woman in the position to help address some of these issues. In particular, Madame Secretary, a lawyer, has stated that these issues should be at the top of our nation's agenda.³

We hope to act as a forum for those who live and breathe the fight for equity and equality every day and who write openly and honestly about the challenges society faces. We promise to tackle tough women and gender issues facing our cities, states, countries, and the global world—just as some of the authors of this issue have written in their articles.

We are extremely excited about bringing this much needed platform to the business and legal community, and we hope you will become involved in our efforts to bring to light issues that have been generally suppressed in the past. Just by reading these words, you are helping us to bring the legal rights of

¹ See Mark Landler, A New Gender Agenda, N.Y. Times, Aug. 23, 2009, at MM41.

² See id.

³ See id.

women and gender identity into the forefront. Together we can create a strong voice. This is just the beginning.

JESSICA HUYNH & CARIN McDONALD Editors-in-Chief DePaul Journal of Women, Gender & the Law