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## The Resurgence of Herbal Remedies: Controlling Access to Herbal Remedies and Medicinal Marijuana--Foreword

Hastings Women's Law Journal

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## Foreword

Each year, the *Hastings Women's Law Journal* hosts a symposium in an effort to bring scholars and practitioners from all over the country together to share their insight and encourage dialogue about an important issue. As part of a long-standing tradition at the *Hastings Women's Law Journal*, the first issue of every volume deals with issues raised in the previous year's symposium. Since this is the first issue of Volume 11, the majority of the pieces within it grapple with the issues raised at our 1999 Symposium titled, "The Resurgence of Herbal Remedies: Controlling Access to Herbal Remedies and Medicinal Marijuana."

The first panel of our 1999 Symposium, "Herbal Supplement Regulation," discussed the regulatory problems remaining after the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act (DSHEA) of 1994 classified herbal products as dietary supplements. With the current rise in the consumption of herbal supplements, it is imperative that we explore the regulation of this rapidly growing billion-dollar industry and its effect on consumers. Among other things, the pieces within this issue that are related to this panel discuss the implementation of DSHEA, whether DSHEA's regulation of herbal supplements should be tightened or relaxed, and the problems of disseminating truthful information to consumers.

The second panel of our 1999 Symposium, "The Criminalization of Medicinal Marijuana," discussed the regulatory problems remaining after Proposition 215 passed in California, 'legalizing' the use of marijuana for physician-authorized purposes. This issue contains an edited version of the speeches given during this panel. Also included is a policy commentary titled, "Breaking the Federal/State Impasse Over Medicinal Marijuana: A Proposal," written by Professor Marsha N. Cohen, who spoke at the Symposium.

In addition to the symposium pieces, we have included two pieces dealing with sexual harassment. Sarah Ream's student note explores employer liability based on customer-service policies that may encourage the harassment of employees by customers. We are also publishing an amicus brief submitted to the Supreme Court on behalf of the petitioner in *Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education*. In *Davis*, the Court established a standard for school district liability based on peer-to-peer

sexual harassment. Our 2000 Symposium, titled the "Academic Epidemic: Sexual Harassment in Public Schools," explored some of the issues remaining after the *Davis* decision. The amicus brief serves as a preview to our Winter 2001 issue, which will feature pieces related to the 2000 Symposium. We encourage you to submit articles, commentaries, essays, personal narratives, etc. for possible inclusion in our Winter 2001 issue.

Finally, the Editorial Board of the *Hastings Women's Law Journal* invites your participation in the continuing debate surrounding herbal supplement regulation and medicinal marijuana. We welcome your comments and questions. Please refer to the *Submissions/Subscriptions* page at the start of this issue for specific information about our submissions process.

*Hastings Women's Law Journal*