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Foreword

Amanda Kennedy

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Foreword

For nineteen years, the *Hastings Women's Law Journal* has provided a forum for voices outside the traditional scope of legal academic scholarship. The founding members of the *Hastings Women's Law Journal* expressed a need for “alternative styles of legal discourse” in a community traditionally dominated by men. Today, in addition to addressing issues that affect women, the *Hastings Women's Law Journal* publishes scholarship in the areas of race, religion, sexuality, disability, youth rights, and animal law.

In Volume 19.1, we are pleased to continue in the *Journal's* tradition of providing a forum for discussion of traditionally underrepresented issues in legal academic discourse. The pieces in this issue address such varied topics as women in the legal profession, women's rights in inheritance, mental health, women's health, and children's rights.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Executive Articles Editor Laura Thomason and Senior Articles Editors Florence Yu, Dao Lam, Kyna Hsiao, and Pepper Austin for the incredible work that was put into this issue. Without their tireless efforts and dedication, you would not be holding in your hands such an exciting issue of the *Journal*.

In addition to publishing an academic journal, the *Hastings Women's Law Journal* seeks to foster a supportive community in which members are encouraged to engage in conversation on topics that may not otherwise be present in law school dialogue. The outstanding student Notes in this issue illustrate the fascinating and timely topics that, without an outlet such as the *Hastings Women's Law Journal*, would not be explored in the law school curriculum. This year, we have been inspired by the experience, enthusiasm, and dedication demonstrated by all of the journal members. The creativity, intellect, and sense of humor that each member brings to the *Journal* has made this fall an extremely memorable and rewarding experience for us.

We look forward to continuing to work together in the coming months, and to inviting the legal community to engage with us in meaningful dialogue at our nineteenth annual symposium: "Family Frontiers: Emerging Legal Issues in the Post-Nuclear Era," on February 7, 2008. For nineteen years, the *Hastings Women's Law Journal* has invited members of the Hastings community and the broader legal community to exchange ideas, work together, and learn about important issues facing all of us today. In bringing together scholars, practitioners, activists, and students, *HWLJ* will continue to work toward our founders' goals of challenging "the legal community to reconceptualize the law from a broader perspective, and invite discussion of the possibilities."

Readers, we thank you for exploring possibilities with us! Enjoy Volume 19.1 of the *Hastings Women's Law Journal*.

Amanda Kennedy
Emily Wood
Co-Editors-in-Chief, Volume 19