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Editorial Comment and Editorial Board

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Editorial Comment

CIRCLES past year has been full of trials, tragedies, and triumphs. The founding women of CIRCLES have graduated, leaving the journal in our hands. The stress of the transition is compounded by the tragic death of one of our first Co-Editors-in-Chief. In spite of these setbacks, the journal has emerged stronger than ever. New members have brought dedication and determination. Old members have renewed their commitment and graduated members have lent their knowledge and guidance without hesitation.

Bringing this issue to print was difficult. In addition to the regular hardships of editing, layout, deadlines, and finding time to study, there were new challenges. We were on our own. Much of the practical knowledge regarding the publication of the journal left with our mentors. There were many times that we did not know what to do next, times when we felt alone and unappreciated. We were continuously aware of the fragility of the journal's continued existence. Our "Circle" was closing in on us. Throughout the struggle to bring this issue to print, however, there was one thing that we almost forgot. WE HAVE A PLACE. We possess a space of our own, one where we can explore realities, expound on philosophies, and excite our readership. And for that we owe gratitude and thanks.

This issue of CIRCLES is therefore a celebration. We celebrate and honor those inspirational women who had the courage and tenacity to provide us with this opportunity and this space. CIRCLES was born out of alienation and frustration felt by a group of women in their first year of law school. Their feelings stemmed from the lack of opportunity to voice their perspectives, ideas, and analyses within the first year curriculum. Their immediate reaction was to address the problem and their feelings among themselves. Over the course of a year, dialogue turned to action. Their goal was to create a suitable forum in which to express the myriad experiences and ideas that shape women's lives. By deviating from the traditional law review format, CIRCLES challenges the notion that scholarship is only achieved in legal articles. The journal advocates that poetry, prose, and artwork are equally valid tools for discussion, argument, and exploration.

We continue on our founders' path, ensuring the longevity of CIRCLES. We are committed to maintaining the unique format that separates and defines this journal. A circle is a never-ending unbreakable line--it can contract and collapse, but there is a greater potential for expansion. We at CIRCLES have chosen to focus on this potential. We celebrate our founding members and their amazing vision. And we rejoice at the ability to bring you this journal.

Please join in our celebration: turn the page.
CONTRIBUTORS

BENEFACTORS

Joanne Elizabeth Fuchs Memorial Fund:

Big Tree Elementary School Faculty & Staff
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