

FOREWORD

Each publication of the *Duke Journal of Gender Law & Policy* seeks to address topics of importance in the gender law community. This special issue stands out by addressing two different topics whose significance and relevance extends beyond the gender law community to the general public.

The first topic, Gender Law Issues in Healthcare: Privacy and Paternalism, was inspired by a panel discussion held by the *Duke Journal of Gender Law & Policy* on October 21, 2001, entitled Legal Issues in Women's Healthcare: Privacy and Paternalism. The panel focused on the recent U.S. Supreme Court case, *Ferguson v. City of Charleston*, discussing rights, responsibilities, and informed consent in the evolving relationship between pregnant women and the government. Our panelists included Andrew Taslitz, a professor of law at Howard University, and Chris Sinha, an assistant attorney general from the North Carolina State Attorney General's Office, both of whom contributed pieces to this issue, as well as Susan Dunn, counsel to Crystal Ferguson, the named plaintiff in the *Ferguson* case. In putting together the issue, we expanded the topic to address broader gender law issues, allowing us to include a look at the complex ethics surrounding surrogate parenting and other reproductive technologies under U.S. and Jewish law and an examination of informed consent and standards of care for the intersexed.

The second topic in the issue, Gender and War, addresses the events and consequences of September 11, 2001. In the wake of the terrorist attacks, and the ensuing political debates and action, we thought it appropriate to open the issue to a discussion of their impact on gender issues. We are gratified to present this collection of commentaries, which deal with everything from terrorism and Islam to the military.

We would like to thank each of our authors, whose varying disciplines, backgrounds, and perspectives provided us with unique and interesting viewpoints on these topics. Along with the articles and commentaries, we are pleased to publish student notes from two of our editors, Carie Little Hersh and Erin Nicholson.

The *Journal* is indebted to the administration of Duke Law, particularly Dean Katharine Bartlett, Senior Associate Deans Richard Danner and Theresa Newman, and Professors Trina Jones and Robyn Wiegman. We would also like to welcome and thank our newest advisors from the Law School, Professors Carolyn McAllaster and Allison Rice. We also extend a special thanks to David Menzies and Kristen Swaringen of the publications department and to the members of the Journal and Electronic Publishing Committee. Finally, thank you to the members of the *Journal* for the time and devotion they have contributed to this issue, and for their commitment to gender law and its furtherance in the legal community.