

October 2002

**Student Petition:**  
**Standing Together for Equality & Justice**

We, the students of Georgetown University Law Center who have signed below, strongly oppose the presence of the military at the Law Center's Government Interview Week.

According to the bylaws of the Association of American Law Schools, under which this Law Center is presently certified, our school has an affirmative duty to provide us with equal opportunities to obtain employment without discrimination based upon several criteria, including sexual orientation. Georgetown requires that every employer who comes to campus to recruit law students must sign the Law Center's nondiscrimination policy. However, this year the Law Center has been forced to make an exception and grant the military access to its campus because the Department of Defense's new interpretation of the Solomon Amendment threatens to withhold federal funding from all of Georgetown University, including its medical school, if the Law Center disobeys.

We stand against the federal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy which prohibits gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals from serving in the armed services if such individuals ever disclose, or ever act upon, their sexual orientation. In 2001, the Pentagon fired a record high of three to four servicemembers every day under their "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. Such a policy is contrary to our basic principles of fairness, honesty, and integrity. As students, we feel alienated from our own community as the school has been forced to acquiesce to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. We call upon the United States Congress to repeal both the disgraceful "Solomon Amendment" which forces law schools to abandon their nondiscrimination policies and the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy which forces gay, lesbian, and bisexual servicemembers to sacrifice their personal integrity by serving in silence or forsake their hopes for a military career.

Signed: