

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 1, 2002

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**MILITARY TO RECRUIT AT YALE LAW SCHOOL AFTER DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT THREATENS WITHDRAWAL OF \$350 MILLION;
STUDENTS AND FACULTY VOW TO CONTINUE TO FIGHT
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST GAYS AND LESBIANS**

NEW HAVEN, CT -- Yale Law School's Student/Faculty Alliance for Military Equality (SAME) today applauded Yale University's announcement that it will challenge a Defense Department decision that forced the law school temporarily to suspend its non-discrimination policy. The suspension allows the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps to participate in recruiting events, despite the military's continued exclusion of fully qualified gays and lesbians.

In a statement issued today, Yale Law School Dean Anthony Kronman said that the law school community "should take heart from the University's willingness to defend the legality of our recruitment policy and to seek a determination of the correctness of our position."

Yale Law School's non-discrimination policy prevents any employer that discriminates on grounds including sexual orientation, race, religion, and gender from participating in the school's interview programs. Under a law known as the Solomon Amendment, the Defense Department had informed the law school that unless the school specially exempted the military from this policy, \$350 million in federal funds would be withdrawn. Most of the funds go toward medical research, including research into cancer and HIV/AIDS prevention.

"We strongly support our Dean's actions," said Professor Harold Koh, member of SAME and a former assistant secretary of state. "The idea of non-discrimination is one of the guiding principles of this law school. Students and faculty are deeply committed to the notion that every member of this community should be treated equally."

SAME is planning a protest to coincide with the visit of Air Force JAG recruiters on Friday, October 4. "We understand the military's need to recruit the best and the brightest, particularly now. But as we fight to protect freedom and equality abroad, we must honor these principles here at home," said Daphna Renan, a representative of the law school's student government and a member of SAME. "If the military wants the best fighting force available, it should interview *all* those who wish to serve their country."

SAME is a coalition of Yale Law School students and faculty whose aim is to protect the school's non-discrimination policy and ensure that all students have an equal opportunity to serve in the military.