

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Georgetown Law Journal is proud to present this special-edition issue commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment's passage. Protecting women's rights and voting rights feels especially pressing at present, and it was heartening to see the strides made over the last 100 years through production of this issue. Yet, as our authors point out, there is much more work to do to achieve the Nineteenth Amendment's promise. The pieces in this issue address the Nineteenth Amendment as it pertains to women's rights, the intersectionality of gender and race, marriage equality, and voting rights. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg also shares her thoughts on many of these topics in a transcript of *Searching for Equality: The Nineteenth Amendment and Beyond*, a conversation between Justice Ginsburg and the Honorable M. Margaret McKeown on Georgetown Law's campus in February 2020.

Production of this issue involved the talent and effort of many people. I would like to first thank the American Bar Association for trusting *The Georgetown Law Journal* to publish this issue as part of its year-long celebration of the Nineteenth Amendment. The *Journal* particularly expresses gratitude to ABA President Judy Perry Martinez and Katy Englehart in the ABA Office of the President.

Many people at Georgetown Law supported this endeavor. To Dean William Treanor, thank you for bringing this opportunity to the *Journal*. Thank you to Anna Selden and Stacy Carmichael from Georgetown Law's Office of Journal Administration for your support for this extra issue from the get-go. We are so appreciative of all the behind-the-scenes work you have done to help us publish this issue. The *Journal* also thanks Christine Hammer and Clara Kelly from Georgetown Law's Office of Special Events.

This project could not have been possible without the support of approximately fifty of the *Journal's* members, who all volunteered additional time outside of their regular *Journal* duties to produce this issue. A very special thanks to those who served as Executive Editors, Executive Articles Editors, and Articles Editors. And to the *Journal's* Managing Editors, Amy Chau and Erin O'Neill, there are no words to express the gratitude I feel for your work on this special issue. Amy and Erin were instrumental from the initial consideration of this project through its printing. Amy and Erin, you do it all, and Volume 108 staff and editors have been immensely lucky to benefit from your leadership.

The *Journal* would like to thank the authors in this special edition for contributing their Articles. To Professors Rick Hasen, Nan Hunter, Leah Litman, Catherine Powell, Camille Gear Rich, and Reva Siegel, thank you so much for writing pieces on the Nineteenth Amendment for this special issue. We are sincerely humbled to have you publish with us. We cheered when each of you accepted our publication offers, and we celebrate now as the pieces go to print just shy of one year later.

To Judge McKeown, the *Journal* is thrilled and honored that you entrusted us with this special project as part of your chairpersonship of the ABA's Commission on the 19th Amendment. Judge McKeown's immense support has ranged from envisioning the types of pieces the issue might include to helping the *Journal* with a number of logistics involved in the publication process. When I assumed my role as Editor-in-Chief in January 2019, I never imagined that we would be working closely with a Ninth Circuit judge to publish an issue focused on women's rights! Thank you for this incredible opportunity and for being so gracious with your time and patience.

To Justice Ginsburg, whose pathbreaking advocacy has opened doors, whose opinions and dissents shape so much of the modern discourse on women's rights, and whose leadership has inspired countless women in the law, thank you. I will never forget the moment my new peers and I saw you walk on stage to speak to our first-year class in the fall of 2017. We were brought to tears, knowing that you largely paved the way for us to be seated in the audience as law students that day. Thank you for *all* you do, and in particular, your generosity in speaking on campus and allowing the *Journal* to publish your insightful remarks.

It has been an immense honor to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of *The Georgetown Law Journal*. To finalize this special edition on the eve of graduation has been a wonderful reminder of the importance of legal scholarship in influencing litigation, policy, and public discourse. I hope you enjoy this celebration of the Nineteenth Amendment, as well as the important critiques of the legal landscape following in the wake of its passage.

Grace Paras
Editor-in-Chief
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