

COLUMBIA JOURNAL OF RACE & LAW

VOL. 1

APRIL 2012

NO. 2

EDITOR'S NOTE

*Sheila R. Adams**

On behalf the Editorial Board and Staff, I am proud to present this Symposium Issue of the *Columbia Journal of Race and Law*.

On October 22, 2010, the *Journal* presented its inaugural symposium, "So Goes Arizona, So Goes the Nation?: Immigration and Civil Rights in the 21st Century." The symposium focused on the state of Arizona's passage of the controversial law, S.B. 1070,¹ which has spawned an outcry from the civil rights community and others that the bill effectively authorizes racial profiling of Latinos in the state. The symposium featured a debate on the merits of S.B. 1070 between Nina Perales, National Senior Counsel at the Mexican-American Legal Defense & Educational Fund, and Heather MacDonald, John M. Olin Fellow at the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research. Other panels covered the following topics: Overview of U.S. Immigration Policy; Civil Rights and Immigration Law; "Crimmigration": Intersection of Criminal Laws and Immigration Law"; and Re-framing the Immigration Debate. The event also included student-run lunch discussions on a variety of topics related to immigration.

The authors in this issue, Professor Marjorie Cohn and Mr. Udi Ofer, presented a version of their articles at the symposium. Professor Cohn's article critiques S.B. 1070's constitutional and practical deficiencies, and it discusses the far-reaching effects that the law has had beyond Arizona. Professor Cohn also examines the law from a human rights perspective and ultimately calls for action to prevent the promulgation of laws like S.B. 1070. Mr. Ofer's article re-visits the Supreme Court's decision in *Plyer v. Doe*, which held that undocumented children have the same right of access to a public school education as children who are United States citizens or immigrant children lawfully admitted to the United States. Mr. Ofer examines the current landscape, including school districts'

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¹ 2010 Ariz. Sess. Laws Ch. 113.

compliance with the Court's decision, and concludes by suggesting steps that the federal government should take to ensure that school districts provide all students, including children of undocumented immigrants, with equal access to a public education.

The *Journal* owes a very special thank you to Dean Ellen Chapnick, Professor Jane Spinak, and Tanya Greene of Columbia Law School's Center for Public Interest Law, for their continuous and generous support of the *Journal's* launch and our inaugural symposium. We are extremely thankful to Professor Christina Burnett and Professor Susan Sturm, whose guidance and dedication helped make the *Journal's* symposium a success. The *Journal* is also especially thankful to all of our panelists who participated in this symposium: Nina Perales, Mexican-American Legal Defense & Educational Fund; Heather MacDonald, Manhattan Institute for Policy Research; Professor Mae Ngai, Columbia University; Professor Jennifer Gordon, Fordham Law School & Workplace Project; Minyao Wang, Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver, & Jacobson LLP; Tanaz Moghadam, American Civil Liberties Union; Udi Ofer, New York Civil Liberties Union; Sameer Ahmed, Asian American Legal Defense & Educational Fund; Professor Marjorie Cohn, Thomas Jefferson School of Law; Benita Jain, Immigrant Defense Project; C. Mario Russell, Catholic Charities Services, Archdiocese of NY, Immigrant & Refugee Services; Juan Carlos Ibarra, Columbia Law School; Paul Arias, Columbia University; Professor Rodolfo O. de la Garza, Columbia University; Roxana Mondragon, Columbia Law School; Justin Steil, Columbia Law School; Shana Khader, Columbia Law School; and Darren Jackson, Columbia Law School.

Additionally, the *Journal* would like to express its gratitude to the organizations and centers that co-sponsored the event: Center for Public Interest Law's Social Justice Initiatives; Student Senate; American Constitution Society; Black Law Students' Association; Civil Rights Law Society; Federalist Society; Latino/a Law Students' Association; National Lawyers' Guild; RightsLink; Society for Immigrant and Refugee Rights; and Columbia University's Leyes Latino Pre-Law Society.

Last, but certainly not least, I personally would like to acknowledge the exceedingly hard work of the Editorial Board, especially Priscilla Orta-Wenner, and the *Journal's* staff for their help in planning, publicizing, and executing the event.

We sincerely hope that you enjoy this Symposium Issue.