

EDITOR'S NOTE

Children's lives are increasingly regulated by the legal system and federal and state laws. For better or worse, children can no longer avoid the heavy hand of the law whether it be in the classroom or foster care. What that means in the short and long term is constantly being examined by those who believe the government should take a more stringent position and by those who want less interference. In this issue, three authors delve into how regulation, or in some instances the lack of regulation, has hindered and helped children. Terry Jean Seligmann looks at how the courts have been interpreting the seminal case *Board of Education v. Rowley* when parents and school districts disagree about the educational plans for autistic children. Avarita Hanson takes us behind school walls and examines how zero-tolerance policies undermine *Brown v. Board of Education*. Finally, Michele Benedetto reports from the frontlines of the foster care system to make a case for improved emancipation services.

I would like to thank everyone on our board of editors and our student members for working especially hard to publish a high quality and thought-provoking issue. The outgoing editorial board has done a phenomenal job this academic year in raising the bar on how the Journal is run and produced. I hope their hard work challenges all of our readers to think beyond what we read and hear in the mainstream media and inspires everyone to take a stand in ensuring all children enter adulthood on a level playing field.

Jennifer R. Klein

Editor-in-Chief