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Foreword

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## FOREWORD

In this General Issue, we present articles and comments which we hope will be the source of further discussion and debate wherever they are read. In particular, we want to note the work of Professor Margaret Montoya, whose words have spawned lengthy and critical discussions on two coasts of the United States.

Reviewed by three Latinas on our staff, Professor Montoya's article received immediate and emotional praise. Her narrative sparked memories of our Latina upbringing and its influence on our law school experience. We also contemplated the effect of publishing the article in the face of traditional legal scholarship. We decided to publish the article not only for ourselves and our readers, but also because one of Professor Montoya's messages is precisely about challenging notions of what is accepted legal scholarship.

After much deliberation, Professor Montoya decided to accept an offer to publish with the *Harvard Women's Law Journal*, from which we would receive the article ready to print in our *Review*. Throughout their extensive editing process, we had updates from Professor Montoya and each time we were more surprised that the article was undergoing so much change. We wondered whether the article might be losing its "flavor." The result is still an inspiring, important contribution to legal scholarship and to the growing her-stories of Latinas.

However, the lessons learned are about the proper criticisms of all student-run journals and the need to see our (the *Chicano-Latino Law Review*) role more broadly—as pertinent to a wider forum for Latina/o scholarship and that of other scholars of color, and to the recognition of scholarship that challenges traditional standards. We hope that we might encourage greater and increased collaboration among journals, not only in publication but also in evaluating the criticisms of our efforts. Perhaps, then, we can improve the collective body of legal scholarship.

We thank all of our contributors and supporters. Our special thanks to Professor Montoya for allowing us to share her words with you, but also for her summons to the legal academy to hear our voices.

MARIA A. SALAS-MENDOZA

