

Dedication

In the early morning of August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast; the aftermath of this storm would change New Orleans forever. As we pass the ten-year anniversary mark, we dedicate this Volume of the *Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality* to those affected by the Storm: those who lost loved ones, those whose homes were destroyed, those who watched in terror as their city fell to pieces, those who waited for help that never came, those that came to a broken city's aid, and those that stayed to rebuild a city that they loved.

New Orleans has always had this magic to it; once you are here, it envelops your soul. This magic was never lost, despite the darkest of nights. Thank you for coming together to rebuild, keeping this magic alive, and letting les bon temps rouler.

Introduction

First published in 1991, the *Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality* was the only student-edited law review in the country devoted solely to covering legal issues of interest to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. Twenty-five years later, unfortunately the same description can still be used today.

In the last twenty-five years, the journal has grown from a small publication, where students would use pen names in fear of retribution for publically associating with such taboo topics, to a journal with a strong national and international circulation, where students can proudly claim to edit the official journal of the National LGBT Bar Association. In the last twenty-five years, we have also seen great changes in the legal landscape for LGBT rights. We have seen the rise and fall of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. We have continued to make strides in the aftermath of the AIDS crisis. We have seen the rise and fall of the Defense of Marriage Act. We have seen marriage equality move from just being a "shimmer . . . on the horizon of the law,"¹ to being the reality nationwide. We have seen the expansion of transgender rights in the military. This is just the beginning; there is more to come, and the *Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality* will continue to bring you legal

1. Nan D. Hunter, *Marriage, Law, and Gender: A Feminist Inquiry*, 1 L. & SEXUALITY REV. LESBIAN & GAY LEGAL ISSUES 9, 10 (1991)

insight on such topics by leading academicians, practitioners, and students.

Most importantly, this twenty-five year milestone would not be possible without hundreds of students involved in the journal over the years, as well as our faculty advisors. We are forever grateful to Professor Ruth Colker, who was integral in bringing this journal to life; Professor Catherine Hancock, who has been a strong leader from the beginning, and Professor Saru Matambanadzo, who has provided much needed emotional and academic support to keep us going. Thank you for putting your heart and soul into the *Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality*. We have officially made it twenty-five years—here's to many more!

Stacey Michel
Senior Articles Editor, Volume 25
On behalf of the Senior Board of the
Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality, Volume 25