

## EDITOR'S NOTES

From the early stages of the editorial process, our goal for this volume was to create an open and original dialogue around women's issues. Instead of confining the content to a particular theme or setting boundaries for the topics to be covered, we decided to let the editorial process motivate a core subject. However, we soon found that "women's issues" had expanded to include environmental policy, education, women's economic and political empowerment, public health, national security, and work-family integration, to name just a few. Our mission for this volume thus became clear: to illustrate that *every issue is a women's issue*.

The following content makes the case that all public policies affect women. Despite the prevailing view that women are primarily concerned with holding positions of soft power and supporting issues of family, reproductive health, and education, women like Massachusetts State Senator Dianne Wilkerson and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Kathleen A. McGinty are evidence of the contrary. As you can see in the articles that feature these powerful women, today women are key players in addressing "hard issues" and finding solutions to the most pressing public problems, including those that extend beyond the boundaries of what are traditionally considered women's issues.

Throughout this volume, we strive to address and foster a dialogue about some of these hard issues and prove that women are, and should continue to be, involved at all levels of policy making and politics. In articles, commentaries, interviews, and reviews, our authors and editors have brought to the forefront key issues, including alternative energy policy; public employment and domestic labor; environmental policy and poverty; women in the military; the integration of work and family; and women's political empowerment in the United States and Iraq. In reading the journal, we hope the content is viewed and received as a vehicle to stimulate creative thinking about all "women's issues."

Most importantly, I would like to thank the journal's managing editor, Marissa Bohrer, who has been a constant source of support and advice to everyone on staff. Her hard work, determination, and dedication to the journal have been truly invaluable. I also extend a very warm thanks to all of the journal's staff members for their devotion to this volume, especially our publisher Christine Connare and our faculty advisor Richard Parker. In addition, we are grateful to the Women and Public Policy Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government for its steadfast support of this endeavor. I would also like to thank our Executive Advisory Board for its enduring commitment to our mission and publication. Due to the substantial efforts and devotion of these individuals, the *Women's Policy Journal* has come back strong. We hope it will be a lasting resource for new and inclusive dialogues on policy making and politics affecting women.

Sincerely,  
Dianne Munevar  
Editor-in-Chief