Letter From the Editor

2013 has been monumental for social change. Since the Supreme Court granted cert on the now-famous Windsor case, Americans are challenging the preconceived notions of what makes up a family. Instead of letting past biases maintain definitions that strip benefits from millions of Americans, we are beginning to see Americans band together to dispel these stigmas and fight for laws that promote equality. As the Supreme Court decides the DOMA and Proposition 8 cases, we have seen countless examples of advocacy and support. This year, Americans may have the chance to witness history if the Supreme Court determines that DOMA is unconstitutional and grants married same-sex couples the opportunity to have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

This issue analyzes so many of the issues that Americans have been discussing this year. From questions regarding the right of prisoners to petition for habeas corpus to the implications of government programs on minority groups, the Modern American sought to determine whether the law is keeping up with the modern American citizen. Though often times the answer to that question was no, we have been encouraged by the strides made by students and professionals alike to fight for those harmed by the law. The Modern American seeks to be a voice for all and provides a forum for unrepresented groups.

We greatly appreciate you, the reader, for continuing to support our publication and for believing that every voice deserves a chance to be heard. We also thank our writers who were not afraid to write controversial pieces and fight for marginally represented groups. Finally, a special thank you to our incredible executive board and staff who worked tirelessly to ensure that this issue was dynamic and thought provoking.

Michelle Holland, Editor-in-Chief

Image Credit: Alliance for Justice

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