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## Preface to Issue 2

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## PREFACE

The Forum on Law and Social Change is devoted to addressing issues of vital public importance. As such, this edition recognizes that the law serves a social purpose. Although divergent viewpoints of battling political factions tug at diametrical ends of the social agenda, I think it is safe to say that everyone involved shares a common goal: to encourage and promote the ideal citizenry and nation.

For example, prosecutors set out to “clean up the streets and make them safe.” But with the discretion that is inherent in a prosecutor’s office comes room for abuse and discrimination. Accordingly, Adriano Hrvatin, in his Comment, corners the prosecutorial abuse of discretion that flourishes in the darkest corners of the federal sentencing guideline system. Adriano astutely recognizes the ongoing social wrong arising from prosecutorial grants of leniency to drug-pins with “dirt to throw” on less-culpable drug offenders. His proposed solution calls upon the courts to suppress the use of such “dirt” pursuant to the exclusionary rule.

In the next article, Rebecca Gross examines California’s Three Strikes Law. She questions the existence of judicial discretion in striking prior felony convictions so as to avoid imposing overly harsh sentences on three-time felons whose third strike is non-violent. As Rebecca pinpoints, despite the potential for courts to do justice in the current system, it rarely occurs and thus is more mythical than real. Instead of throwing her hands up in disgust, Rebecca sees the opportunity for much needed reform in the system. The springboard for such change, as she suggests, sits coiled in a recent California court decision.

Vicki Trapalis takes on international injustice. She brings to the forefront of American legal thought the plight of women trapped in Greek prostitution rings. Seeking to employ international cooperation to curb modern day slavery, Vicki suggests viable and doable solutions. The simplicity of her

Finally, I thank my fiancé Greg, who was invaluable with his many editing tips, as well as my always-encouraging family.

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