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EDITOR'S NOTE

At the we Journal are often asked what the term “*Juvenile Law*” encompasses. Is it limited to matters of juvenile criminality? Does it include family law? Dependency? Direct services? Our standard answer is that there is no answer. The field cuts across many disciplines and practice areas, and the content of this issue demonstrates that breadth. Lynn Daggett explores the world of attorney fee-shifting provisions under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act, and discusses how those provisions impact special education disputes. Authors Gilmore, Oppenheim, and Pollack provide us with insight into the adoption home study process. Tamar Ezer has compiled data on the practices of youth services organizations in Boston. Jessica Powers examines the constitutionality of state directed efforts to change a child’s surname. Our Children’s Section contains original work from youth in the delinquency and dependency systems, as well as information on groups which service those communities. In this issue, and in future issues, we hope to explore and expand our definition of *juvenile law* by continuing to question how the law impacts children, and we invite our readers to do the same.

It would be impossible to produce the Journal without the hard work of our entire staff, and for their work I am eternally grateful. Special thanks to our editors, who have worked tirelessly to ensure the high quality of our publication, and to our advisor, Professor West, and Maureen Gatt for their sound counsel. My personal thanks to Alicia Gossoo and Katie Ford, our Managing Editors, whose dedication made the production of this volume possible, and to Sarah van den Bosch and Myra Villamor for their unflagging moral support.

I look forward to our April 10, 2004, Symposium on *Children’s Rights*, and to further exploration into the most cutting-edge issues in juvenile law.

Kira L. Klatchko

