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Editor's Note

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Editor's Note

The *Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice* explores legal issues that affect historically underrepresented classes of persons. One of these issues is discrimination.

The Journal honored its mission by hosting a symposium that explored the impact of 9/11 on the treatment of Muslim Americans. The symposium, titled "Discrimination Against Muslim Americans in a Post-9/11 World," included two panel discussions. The panel topics were "Muslims in America Today: Where We Are, Where We've Been, Where We're Going" and "Sharia Law: What It Is, What It Isn't, and What Role It Should Have in the Courts." The panel participants were experts in civil rights law and Muslim American issues.

Additionally, Nancy Hollander, an internationally recognized criminal defense lawyer, served as the keynote speaker. Her lecture discussed the case of the Holy Land Five who were the co-founders and staff of the Holy Land Foundation. The Holy Land Foundation was once the largest Muslim charity in the United States. The Holy Land Five are now serving prison terms of up to 65 years based on convictions for material support of terrorism.

Although more than a decade has passed since 9/11, discrimination against Muslim Americans has not subsided. In many ways, as our speakers explained, society has condoned discrimination. This symposium allowed Muslim Americans another opportunity to have their stories heard. Only time will tell if our society listens. As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "[W]e may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now." Discrimination against one group threatens all of society.

Producing a successful symposium and symposium issue is no small feat. I would like to personally thank the Editorial Board, Staff Writers, Leigh Walters Kirchner, Cristina Becker, and Monica Tulchinsky for their efforts. Additionally, the *Journal* is extremely grateful for the support of Dean Demleitner, Dean Calhoun, Dean Spencer, Dean Twitty, Dean Natkin, and Professor Massie.

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