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EDITORS' NOTE

This volume marks the first time that the *University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform* and the *Michigan Journal of Race & Law* have collaborated to produce a joint issue. We entered this relationship to pursue two shared goals. First, we seek to enhance the developing body of Latina/o Critical Race Theory by bringing LatCrit, and Critical Race Theory more generally, into established legal discourse. This area of study involves important issues that, for the most part, are rarely discussed, despite their centrality to the legal system and the legal profession's role in an increasingly diverse society. Second, through our collaborative effort, we endeavor to integrate the goals of our publications—providing a forum for the exploration of issues relating to race and law, and focusing on publishing law reform-oriented scholarship.

Race continues to dominate the political, legal, and academic discourse of our nation. As persons of Latina/o heritage quickly move toward becoming the largest minority population in America, the discourse must expand to include the experiences of Latinas and Latinos. Today, these experiences are of particular importance to us and the nation as the diversity-promoting admissions policies of educational institutions are attacked. The University of Michigan and University of Michigan Law School, in particular, are the current legal battlegrounds for challenging affirmative action. The decision that is made about the University's policies has the possibility of changing the way our nation handles diversity in education, employment, and other areas of great impact. Although our joint publication does not deal specifically with affirmative action policy, we believe that the first step toward preserving and further promoting diversity is to expand "outsider jurisprudence" so that each side is better able to understand the other and how their experiences differ.

Finally, this volume was modeled after the collaborative LatCrit issue of the *California Law Review* and the *La Raza Law Journal*.^{*} We hope that other law reviews and journals will join together to bring issues of Critical Race Theory into the "mainstream."

David C. Mitchell
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Michigan Journal of Race & Law

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* See *Latcrit: Latinas/os and the Law, A Joint Symposium by California Law Review and La Raza Law Journal*, 85 CAL. L. REV. 1087 (1997), 9 LA RAZA L.J. 1 (1998).