

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

It is with pride, relief, and not a little astonishment that *The Modern American* offers our first issue published under a non-white president—Mr. Barack Obama. Mr. Obama’s election and inauguration represent the renewal of American energy and the hope of increased diversity and equality in American politics. As the President stated on the night of his inauguration: “It’s the answer spoken by young and old, rich and poor, Democrat and Republican, black, white, Latino, Asian, Native American, gay, straight, disabled and not disabled—Americans who sent a message to the world that we have never been a collection of Red States and Blue States: we are, and always will be, the United States of America.”

Mr. Obama’s election, however, does not represent the end of racism or the end of discrimination in America. It is a milestone, but only one along the road to equality. The American people should and will continue to question the *status quo* of American law and politics, and *The Modern American* hopes to be a strong voice in that dialog.

This year has been an interesting one, both for America and *The Modern American*. On April 14, 2009, our Fourth Annual Symposium will gather renowned scholars to address the separation of church and state and the regulation of morality as it affects

cross-cultural relations in our community. We are also proud to announce that our readership base continues to expand; subscribers will now be able to access *The Modern American* through Vlex, LexisNexis, HeinOnline, and the Westlaw database. In the spirit of environmentalism, we are pleased to continue to offer a green publication.

*The Modern American* would like to thank our former Executive Board and staff members who are graduating in May 2009. We commend them for their contribution to the prevalent discussion of legal issues affecting minorities in our country, and their outstanding dedication to our publication. We encourage them to keep moving forward in their roles as social engineers by facilitating conversations about diversity and the law, and by challenging existing discrimination through education and action.

In closing, we hope our issue inspires you to continue fostering the discourse on diversity and embracing everyday change in your community.

Sincerely yours,

The Executive Board  
*The Modern American*

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