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## Letter From the Editor

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### Abstract

This Special Issue on Gender and Social Justice comes at a time when women and LGBTQ people across the world are facing many issues. Many of our own editorial board members have experienced social injustices related to gender, and have expressed frustration with what is happening around the world.

We see many struggling with social justice issues including:

- Discrimination
- Unequal pay
- Sexual violence
- Physical violence
- A lack of educational opportunities

This special issue attempts to address some of these complex issues.

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This Special Issue on Gender and Social Justice comes at a time when women and LGBTQ people across the world are facing many issues. Many of our own editorial board members have experienced social injustices related to gender, and have expressed frustration with what is happening around the world.

We see many struggling with social justice issues including:

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This special issue attempts to address some of these complex issues. We first have an interview with C.J. Pascoe, Sociologist and award-winning author of *Dude, You're a Fag: Masculinity and Sexuality in High School*. Pascoe shares with our readers the life experiences that led her to social justice, and gives junior scholars and social activists helpful advice.

This issue's first article, *Queering Center: A Critical Discourse Analysis of University LGBT Center Theoretical Foundations* is a critical examination of the texts that are the foundations for these centers. Jen M. Self is a scholar-activist and practitioner analyzing LGBT centers and their practices.

The second article in this issue, *Teaching about Sexual Orientation in an Educational Leadership Preparation Program* addresses the lack of sexual orientation leadership standards. Authors Frank Hernandez, Jonathon McPhetres, and Joann M. Marshall analyze what we can learn from graduate students who are training to be school leaders in K-12 schools.

Finally, this issue has a helpful book review on *Just Queer Folks: Gender and Sexuality in Rural America* by Colin R. Johnson.

One thing that each of these authors has in common is their willingness to speak up and address these important issues. We cannot be silent when there are injustices facing so many. As Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Peace Prize winner, said in a speech at Harvard University in September 2013: "When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful."

It is my hope that these articles, interview, and book review will encourage you to speak up and become powerful.

Thank you for reading,  
Danica Schieber