

EDITORIAL — KŌRERO TĪMATANGA

There are a number of people who are anxious to leave #metoo behind and move on, but I don't think people realize how short of a time we have been discussing this issue compared to how long this has been an issue.

Tarana Burke, Me Too Founder

We started the New Zealand Women's Law Journal — Te Aho Kawe Kaupapa Ture a ngā Wāhine to provoke conversations about how the law affects our wāhine in Aotearoa. In 2016 when we began work on the Journal, we did not quite anticipate just how relevant this platform would become for those within the profession.

With the reporting of sexual assault and harassment at Russell McVeagh in February of this year, public conversations began about the behaviour and experiences our lawyers face in their workplaces. These conversations were not new. In fact, they have been had many times before. But they seemed to be taking place with a new fervour. And everyone seemed to be listening.

Now that we are coming towards the end of 2018, we are extremely aware of the number of experiences shared, reports written, surveys conducted, policies changed and public discussions had. Some might say they are 'tired' of these relentless discussions and they 'just want to get on with their work'. But we are not done talking and the time for real change to occur has only just begun. We want policies to turn into everyday standards that are upheld, we want changes to regulation to lead to accountability and we want surveys to turn into ideas that are actioned. We want you to keep listening.

This Journal can provide one platform by which these conversations are continued and ideas put forward. We are honoured to present this edition of the Journal, which we believe does just that. We want to thank everyone who has contributed to this edition and to this dialogue. We are proud to be sharing their experiences and their whakaaro (ideas) with you. Volume II of

1 Tarana Burke, as quoted in Courtney Connley “#MeToo founder Tarana Burke has big plans for the movement in 2018” (19 January 2018) CNBC <www.cnbc.com>.

the Journal not only discusses the mahi (work) we need to undertake in our own profession, but it also discusses how we can best serve the women in our communities and how the law can be a source of protection and change in our society.

Thank you to those who have continued to tautoko (support) the work of this Journal, by providing contributions, advice, editing prowess, time and passion. We could not produce this without you and it has been an honour to work with you. We also thank our family, friends and colleagues who have enabled us to do what we do.

We are now proud to present this second edition of the New Zealand Women's Law Journal — Te Aho Kawe Kaupapa Ture a ngā Wāhine. We hope it may provide a platform for those who are often silenced to be heard. We hope it becomes part of the impetus for change we so desperately need.

We have had these conversations before. This time, let's ensure we create the change that means we do not need to have them again.

Ana Lenard and Allanah Colley

Editors-in-Chief

29 October 2018