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INTRODUCTION

Our third volume, containing a multitude of topics, illustrates the diversity of legal issues currently confronting Chicanos and others of Latin descent.

Our lead article, authored by Antonia Hernandez, a practicing attorney in East Los Angeles, focuses on the tragic situation surrounding coerced sterilization of Spanish-speaking women. Ms. Hernandez discusses the unexcused failure to implement regulations that govern the actions of the parties involved in this decision (patient, physician, hospital personnel), and probes the necessity of having additional safeguards in order to allow for a more informed decision.

The second article involves a discussion of the Chicana Rights Project, a developing litigation program currently being implemented by *MALDEF*. Patricia Vasquez, coordinator of the project, describes how statutes and regulations, now in existence, can be used to bring about the ideals of equal opportunity in employment and education for Chicanas. This article contains a great deal of helpful information regarding litigation strategy that practitioners might find beneficial in their efforts to restrict discrimination in these areas.

In the revenue sharing article, Mr. Guiterrez and Mr. Zehner discuss the potential for abuse under the current administration of the revenue sharing program, and if allowed to continue, how it could seriously jeopardize the existence of many community programs designed to benefit the poor.

There is increasing evidence that reveals misuse of the decision making power that affects the allocation of revenue sharing funds and which has gone unchecked notwithstanding the existence of nondiscriminatory provisions in the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act. The authors elaborate upon this growing problem and its impact on the effectiveness of the revenue sharing program.

In the final major article, Prof. Sandoval focuses on the problems that plague many Spanish-speaking consumers who have purchased goods in a door-to-door sales transaction. Prof. Sandoval discusses the F.T.C.'s efforts in attempting to combat the problems posed by door-to-door transactions and the need for the

states, particularly those in the Southwest, to enact legislation that would protect "unsuspecting" consumers from the trappings of controvertible sales techniques. Most importantly, Prof. Sandoval stresses the importance of having any sales agreement negotiated in Spanish, to be embodied in a written document also in the Spanish language.

The first student comment examines the recent Supreme Court decision, *DeCanas v. Bica*, which should have some effect on the growing controversy surrounding the undocumented alien. The author explores the Court's reasoning and comments upon outside pressures that might better explain the Court's decision.

The second student comment also focuses on the undocumented alien issue. The authors examine the legal issues surrounding legislation now pending before Congress that is designed to prohibit the employment of undocumented workers. The central issue concerns the effect such legislation could have on Chicanos and their rights to equal employment opportunity.

The final student comment discusses the absence of the right to appointed counsel at a deportation hearing and the reasons justifying the extension of this right to such a hearing.

JAMES ROMO