

## Editor's Note

Among the voices heard during the deliberations over the impeachment of President William Jefferson Clinton were those of scholars. Legal experts, historians, and political scientists from the United States and abroad weighed in on both sides of the controversy. This issue reprints all or portions of the testimony of the five political scientists who appeared before the House Judiciary Committee. These statements point to some of the ways in which members of the profession are participating in the policy process. As is always the case, reprinting the scholars' public statements is not an endorsement of their positions by this journal, nor is it meant to suggest that APSA has taken a position with regard to the historic impeachment controversy.

The subject of the president's impeachment also leads us to the principal concern of this issue, the question of gender in politics. Though President Clinton received exceptionally high, and almost identical, approval ratings among men and women after the House of Representatives adopted its articles of impeachment, the same was not true before that vote. According to a Pew Research Center survey conducted in December 1998, 64% of women and 58% of men approved of the president's performance. There may be differences of opinion over the significance of this six-point spread, whether it represents a gender fissure or a gap, but it draws attention to the persistence of gender-based attitudinal and behavioral differences in contemporary political life.

Our symposium develops this theme by examining gender and voting behavior in the 1996 presidential elections. I wish to express my gratitude to Roberta Sigel for making this symposium possible. Sigel organized the Annual Meeting panel that first considered gender and voting in the last presidential election, and was instrumental in bringing the provocative set of essays to the pages of this journal.

The role of women in the profession, as well as politics, has been addressed often in *PS*. The discussion continues in this issue in essays detailing the employment and tenure prospects and work environment of women and men. "Tenure in a Chilly Climate" and Sarkees and McGlenn's portrayal of the academic market for recent Ph.D.s deserve your special attention.

Looking ahead, symposia in future issues will detail Tocqueville's American peregrination, the significance of social science research, and the evolution of Latino politics. Again, I invite our readers to bring essays and topics of broad interest to the attention of the *PS* editorial staff.

—RJPH

## Symposium Contributors

**Kristi Andersen** is professor and chair of the department of political science in the Maxwell School of Citizen and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. Her most recent book is *After Suffrage: Women in Partisan and Electoral Politics Before the New Deal* (University of Chicago Press, 1996)

**Susan J. Carroll** is professor of political science at Rutgers University and senior research associate at the Center for American Women and Politics of the Eagleton Institute of Politics. She is the author of various works on women's political participation, including *Women as Candidates in American Politics* (Indiana University Press, 2nd ed., 1994).

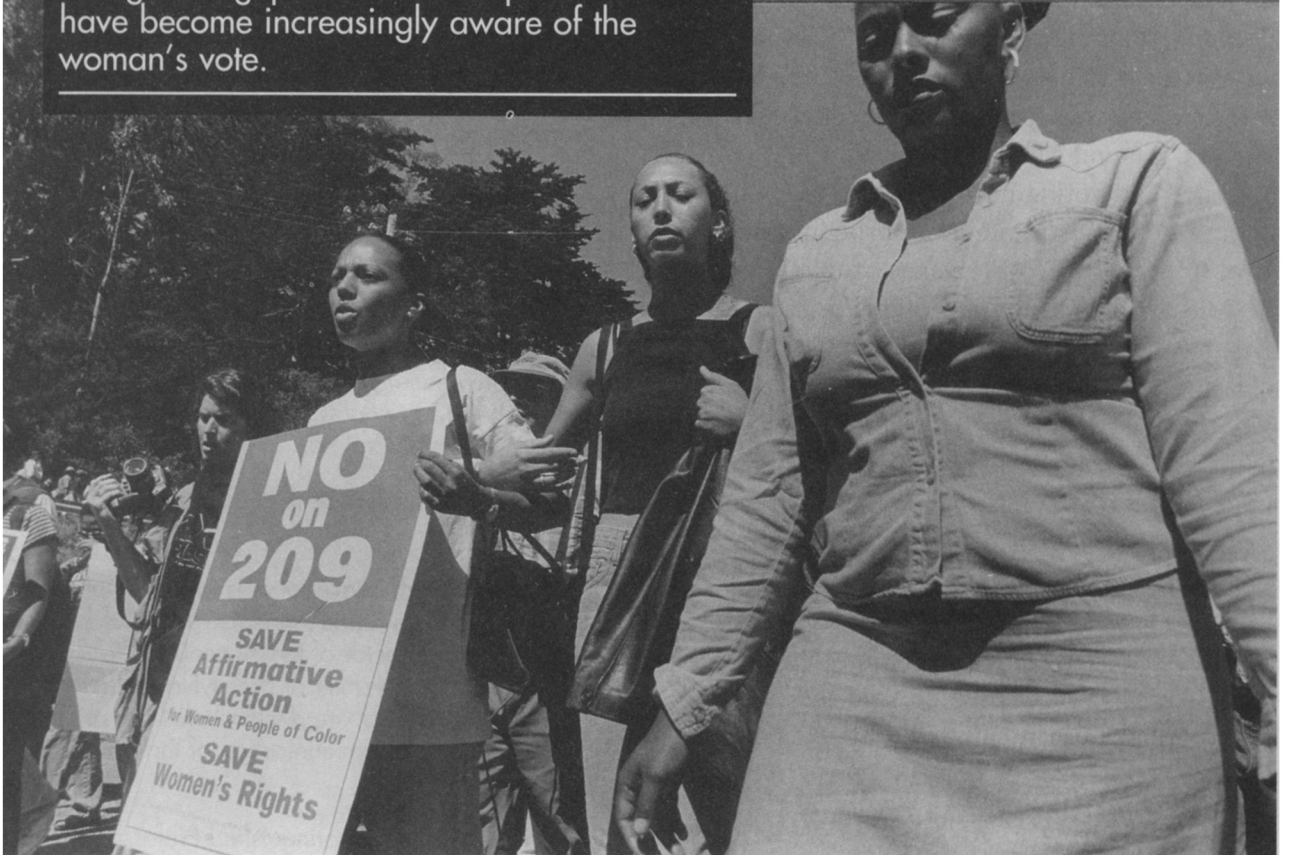
**Kathleen Frankovic** is director of surveys at CBS News.

**Kathleen Hall Jamieson** is professor of communication and dean of the Annenberg School for Communication and director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania. **Erika Falk** and **Susan Sherr** are doctoral students at the Annenberg School for Communication of the University of Pennsylvania.

**Roberta Sigel** is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Rutgers University. She most recently prepared a new volume of *Ambition & Politics: How Women View Gender Relations*, published by the University of Chicago Press.



From the "feminine mystique" of the 1970s to the "gender gap" of the 1990s politicians have become increasingly aware of the woman's vote.



Photos courtesy of Library of Congress (top) and David Bacon, Impact Visuals, 1998 (Bottom).