Contemporary Politics of Gender in the Media Spotlight

The *Journal of Communication Inquiry* invites submissions for the 2013 theme issue. This issue will be devoted to scholarship on the contemporary politics of gender. The politics of gender are not only a concept and area of research within academia, but rather an ever-pressing issue that seems to have come to a head with the widely discussed “War on Women” in the recent political climate.

The “War on Women” in America refers to an increase in the legislative and rhetorical conservative positions that have been regarded as threatening to, or severely restricting women’s rights and support.

In addition to seeing certain legal measures designed to protect women fail – such as the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in 2012, and proposals to redefine “victims” of violence sexual crimes as “accusers” – new legislative measures that would negatively influence the way gendered crimes and harassment are defined and prosecuted, as well as significant restrictions on contraception, abortion services and sexual/reproductive health have been proposed on both state and federal levels. The result has been a lively discussion and debate in the public sphere surrounding what it means to be a woman or supporter of women, as well as inequalities remaining in gendered politics.

The *JCI* theme issue of 2013 invites submissions of works that feature the contemporary politics of gender in communication/media studies as a centerpiece of argument. Whether addressing domestic or foreign policy toward gendered issues, images from news or entertainment media, or semantics of gender in covering various groups and individuals, all submissions that feature a vivid angle of the politics of gender and communication are welcome. All submissions will be peer-reviewed.

The deadline for submitting manuscripts is April 1, 2013. We look forward to receiving your submissions!

All inquiries should be directed to the *JCI* managing editor, Erin O’Gara at erin-ogara@uiowa.edu