

Editorials

A NEW JOURNAL: A NEW BEGINNING

The birth of a new journal is exciting. It evokes the mysteries and power of written words on the printed page, with tactile, visual and intellectual qualities—even the smells of ink and sounds of rustling paper—that we associate so deeply with pleasure, enrichment and fascination.

We have created this new journal, *Health and Human Rights*, to inform and expand the space within which ideas about the intersection between health and human rights can venture forth into the world, to be cited and criticized, debated and discussed, torn down and built up. For it is in the nature of pioneering work—in this case, exploring the frontiers of health and human rights—that some new paths will lead forward, and others will be found, later and from afar, to have been only byways and meandering trails.

A journal has many parents, and even more ancestors. Among this journal's parents, special pride of place belongs to Albina du Boisrouvray, who immediately understood, provided the means, and continues to share ideas and inspiration with us; to Tori Alexander who helped at the start; to all the members of our Editorial Board and Senior Advisory Board for their intellectual and personal support; to John Lauerman, managing editor extraordinaire; to Frances Lieberthal, our capable editorial assistant; and to all the people—near and far—who are part of the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights; to all, many, many thanks.

Paradoxically, the journal's ancestry will become clearer as we age! Only with the passage of several years will this newborn's relationship to the intellectual and pragmatic work of the world become evident. However, by joining health and human rights—these two great modern concepts and arguments about the nature and foundations of human well-being—the jour-

nal is connected with a global quest, a sense of hopeful realism towards the future, and confidence in the heritage of life on earth.

It is therefore with pride, humility and respect that we present this new journal to you. It is sent with our best wishes and our hopes that it will stimulate and challenge and please you. And yet, if it is weak, help us to strengthen it; if too timid, embolden us; and above all, we are counting on your participation.

Jonathan Mann, MD, MPH
Editor