Among other things, Jane Doe is the woman in the lawsuit Jane Doe v. the Metropolitan Toronto Police. She writes, researches and educates about women's equality and sexual assault, but above all she is a feminist activist. She wishes to thank and praise Professor Elizabeth Sheehy for her work in making this journal and the “Jane Doe Conference” possible. Jane also honours the feminist, anti-racist activism of young women, most recently during the G20 Summit.

Carol Latchford is a published writer who has provided leadership in the Violence Against Women (VAW) movement for over twenty years. She is also a mixed-race, queer identified mother of three adult children.

Rakhi Ruparelia is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa. Her research focuses on critical race and feminist perspectives on the law. Before her legal career, she worked closely with survivors of sexual violence as a social worker. More recently, she has conducted judicial training on sexual assault law.

Elizabeth Sheehy is a law professor at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law where she teaches Criminal Law, Sexual Assault Law, and Defending Battered Women on Trial. All of her research and writing focuses on legal and feminist responses to male violence against women. She was thrilled to convene the conference, “Sexual Assault Law, Practice and Activism in a Post-Jane Doe Era” at the University of Ottawa in March 2009, with the brilliant and generous assistance of the conference co-ordinator, Jane Doe. Out of this conference will come not only this issue of Canadian Woman Studies/les cahiers de la femme, but also an issue of the Canadian Journal of Women and the Law and a double volume book to be published by the University of Ottawa Press.

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About the Guest Editors…

ELIZABETH PICKETT

time is a wolf in a cave

a few beats away
from my heart’s twelve
where you are to blame
because I was not found

your hand
on my heart
stops
like a wolf
in its cave

you swore it was the last time
and so did I
we both swore
the last

time I said it’s forever
and you said it was
but we knew
it was a wolf
in a cave

I want to know
will I move past your body
when you die
or will my own half-cells
die with you

when I was a girl
you told me time was forever
yet the wolves found me
in dreams

when your teeth are gone
I know
they’ll still eat me
I’ll fall from your mouth
when you throw up the bones

Elizabeth Pickett is an internet-based feminist freedom fighter, a mother, a grandmother, a blogger, and a poet, seething in Whitby, Ontario.