

THE THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW **WOMEN AND THE LAW** CONFERENCE

AND THE RUTH BADER GINSBURG LECTURE SERIES
2001–2014



HISTORY OF THE WOMEN AND THE LAW CONFERENCE

Inaugurated in 2001, the Women and the Law Conference was the first lecture series in the western United States focusing exclusively on issues related to gender and the law.

Created by Thomas Jefferson Professors Julie Greenberg, Susan Tiefenbrun and Susan Bisom-Rapp, and fostered by a committed group of faculty, staff and students, the first conference earned rave reviews from its attendees, including practitioners and legal academics. Professor Deborah Rhode of Stanford Law School, a widely acknowledged expert on the status of women in the legal profession, and then-Chair of the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Legal Profession, delivered the first keynote address.

After her 2003 visit to Thomas Jefferson School of Law, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg generously created the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture Series, which at the time was one of only two lecture series bearing her name. Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturers Joan Williams, Martha Albertson Fineman, Kathryn Abrams, Vicki Schultz, Rochelle Dreyfuss, Barbara Palmer, Cheryl Hanna, Kimberlé Crenshaw, Stacy Leeds, Sarah Weddington, and Susan Williams have delivered presentations on a wide range of topics that have a profound effect on women. Captain Stacy Pedrozo is delivering the 2014 Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture.



Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg



Professors Julie Greenberg, Susan Tiefenbrun and Susan Bisom-Rapp

Justice Ginsburg returned to the 2013 Women and the Law Conference and discussed the role of women in the judiciary.

The Women and the Law Project's conference series is unique in its early interdisciplinary approach and its commitment to bridging the gap between the teaching academy and the practicing bar.

THE CONFERENCE SERIES EMBODIES FIVE GOALS:

1. Advancing the legal rights of women
2. Promoting gender-related scholarly work.
3. Facilitating an interdisciplinary dialogue among academics in a variety of disciplines.
4. Enhancing communication about gender issues among jurists, practitioners, legal academics and other specialists working on issues of sex and gender.
5. Sharing the expertise of Thomas Jefferson law faculty with the wider community.

2001–2014 CONFERENCE TOPICS & KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

2001: Women as Workers

Keynote Speaker: Professor Deborah L. Rhode

Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law, Stanford Law School

Keynote Address: "Women in the Law: The Unfinished Agenda"

2002: Women and Family Law

Keynote Speaker: Justice Judith McConnell

California Fourth District Court of Appeal

Keynote Address: "Women in the Law: Changing the Way Courts Do Business"

2003: Women and the Maternal Wall

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Joan Williams

American University Washington College School of Law,
presently at U.C. Hastings College of the Law

Keynote Address: "Beyond the Glass Ceiling: The Maternal Wall as a Barrier to Gender Equality"

2004: What U.S. Lawyers Can Learn from International Law: Concepts of Gender Equality Across Legal Cultures

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Martha Albertson Fineman

Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law, Emory University School of Law

*Keynote Address: "Comparative Concepts of Equality Across Legal Cultures:
The Use of International and Human Rights Ideas, Norms, and Concepts in U.S. Jurisprudence"*

2005: The Global Impact of Feminist Legal Theory

(Co-sponsored by Emory University's Feminism and Legal Theory Project)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Kathryn Abrams

Associate Dean and Herma Hill Kay Distinguished Professor of Law,
University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Keynote Address: "Work in the Global Context"

2001–2014 CONFERENCE TOPICS & KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

2006: **Sexuality at Work**

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Vicki Schultz

Ford Foundation Professor of Law, Yale Law School

Keynote Address: “The Sanitized Workplace”

2007: **Virtual Women: Emerging Issues in Gender and Intellectual Property Law**

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Rochelle Dreyfuss

Pauline Newman Professor of Law, New York University School of Law

Keynote Address: “Girls Just Want to Have Fun: What Can Feminist Theory Tell Us About Incentives?”

2008: **Women in Politics: The Role of Gender in Political Decision-Making**

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Barbara Palmer

Department of Government, American University

Keynote Address: “Breaking the Political Glass Ceiling: Incumbency, Redistricting, and the Success of Women Candidates”

2009: **Confronting Domestic Violence Head On: The Role of Power in Domestic Relationships**

(Co-sponsored by The Relationship Training Institute of San Diego)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Cheryl Hanna

Vermont Law School

Keynote Address: “Behind the Castle Walls: Balancing Privacy and Security in Domestic Abuse Cases”

2010: **Women of Color and Intersectionality**

(Co-sponsored by UCLA School of Law’s Critical Race Studies Program)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw

UCLA School of Law and Columbia Law School

Keynote Address: “Intersectionality and Women of Color”

2001–2014 CONFERENCE TOPICS & KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

2011: **Gender Justice and Indian Sovereignty: Native American Women and the Law**

(Co-sponsored by the California Indian Association)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor and Justice Stacy L. Leeds

Interim Associate Dean and Professor, University of Kansas School of Law

Chief Justice, Supreme Court for the Kickapoo Tribe

Chief Justice, Supreme Court for the Kaw Nation

Chief Judge, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation District Court

Keynote Address: “Resistance, Resilience, and Reconciliation: Reflections on Native American Women and the Law”

2012: **Reproductive Justice: Examining Choice and Autonomy in the New Millennium**

(Co-sponsored by Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Dr. Sarah Weddington

Professor, Attorney, Legislator, Presidential Advisor and Lead Counsel, Roe v. Wade

Keynote Address: “Women Lawyers: The Importance of Leadership”

2013: **Her Honor: Women in the Judiciary**

Honored Guest: U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Susan Williams

Walter W. Foskett Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Constitutional Democracy

Indiana University Maurer School of Law

Keynote Address: “Women and Judging: A Feminist Approach to Judgment and the Issue of Customary Law”

2014: **Women and the Military**

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Captain Stacy Pedrozo

Commanding Officer, Naval Justice School

Ginsburg Lecture: “Sea Change: Women in the 21st Century U.S. Military”

Keynote Speaker: Vice Admiral Nanette Derenzi

Judge Advocate General, United States Navy

The Thomas Jefferson School of Law's inaugural Women and the Law Conference in **2001**, ***Women as Workers***, featured as keynote speaker Professor Deborah Rhode, the Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law at Stanford Law School, former president of the Association of American Law Schools and former chair of the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Legal Profession. Her keynote address focused on the status of women in the legal profession and the challenge for lawyers of leading balanced lives. She was followed by Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professors Susan Bisom-Rapp, Julie Greenberg, and Susan Tiefenbrun, who respectively touched on their research related to sexual harassment training, Title VII and gender non-conformity discrimination, and global trafficking of women sex workers.



Professor Deborah Rhode



Justice Judith McConnell

The Second Annual Women and the Law Conference theme in **2002** was ***Women and Family Law***. The Honorable Judith McConnell, Presiding Justice of the California Fourth District Court of Appeal, delivered the keynote address, titled "Women in the Law: Changing the Way Courts Do Business," which reviewed law reform movements aimed at eliminating gender bias in the courts and in substantive law. Her lecture was followed by presentations from Thomas Jefferson Professors Marybeth Herald, Ellen Waldman, Laura Adams and Ruth Philips, who discussed the rights of spouses to terminate life support, assisted reproductive technology, war crimes and family violence, and refugee laws and domestic violence.

In **2003**, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg visited Thomas Jefferson School of Law and delivered an

address titled, "Workways of the Supreme Court." After this visit, Justice Ginsburg generously created the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture Series, which at the time was one of only two lecture series bearing her name.



Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

At the Third Annual Conference, ***Women and the Maternal Wall***, Joan C. Williams, then Professor of Law at American University and presently Distinguished Professor of Law at University of California Hastings College of the Law, delivered the first Ruth Bader Ginsburg lecture in **2003**. Her talk, "Beyond the Glass Ceiling: The Maternal Wall as a Barrier to Gender Equality," discussed the cutting-edge legal theories developing in the fight against family care responsibility discrimination and charted a course toward a new reconstructive feminism supporting women both in their traditional caregiving roles and in their desire for access to the traditionally masculine preserves of high status wage labor. Professor Williams' keynote was followed by commentary from Professor William Bielby, discussing social science research on the maternal wall and its effect on litigation;



Professor Joan C. Williams

Professor Susan Bisom-Rapp, analyzing employer reactions to maternal wall lawsuits; Jennifer Roback Morris, critiquing equality jurisprudence; and Professor Julie Greenberg, presenting a unifying theory of gender nonconformity that could be used to assist working mothers and other gender nonconformists.

The Fourth Annual Women and the Law Conference in **2004** focused on ***What U.S. Lawyers Can Learn from International Law: Concepts of Gender Equality Across Legal Cultures***. It brought together distinguished professors from law, the social sciences, and the humanities. Martha Albertson Fineman, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law at Emory School of



Professor Martha Fineman

Law and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer, discussed how a more expansive, substantive notion of equality grounded in international human rights law can be used by progressive lawyers and policy makers to address systemic inequality in the United States and develop a robust vision of the role and responsibility of the state vis-

à-vis its most vulnerable citizens. Her talk was followed by Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professors Linda Keller and Marjorie Cohn, who addressed worldwide noncompliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the failure of the United States to ratify the treaty; Professor Huma Ahmed-Ghosh, who focused on gender discrimination in Afghanistan; and Professor Abigail Saguy, who compared the sexual harassment laws in the United States to France.

In **2005**, Thomas Jefferson School of Law's Women and the Law Project joined with Emory University's Feminism and Legal Theory Project to co-host a two-day conference, ***The Global Impact of Feminist Legal Theory***, which focused on the effect of feminist legal theory beyond U.S. borders. Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer Kathryn Abrams, Herma Hill

Kay Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of California Berkeley School of Law, delivered a lecture titled "Work in the Global Context," in which she exhorted feminist law professors to consider issues related to work as a way of understanding the effects of



Professor Kathryn Abrams

globalization on women around the world. The conference brought together legal and interdisciplinary scholars from around the globe, including Professors Mary Condon and Lisa Phillips from Canada, who spoke about experiments in gender responsive government budgeting in the United Kingdom, Australia and South Africa; Professor Karen Morrow, from the United Kingdom, who evaluated the role of eco-feminists in United Nations sustainable development programming; Siobhan Mullally, who discussed citizenship and family life in Ireland; and Professor Reg Graycar from Australia, who pondered about the trajectory of feminist legal theory and understandings of equality. Additional participants included: Michele Alexandre, Penelope Andrews, Judith Baer, Pamela Bridgewater, Kristin Bumiller, Caroline Forell, Julie Goldscheid, Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professor Marybeth Herald, Berta Hernandez-Truyol, Tracy Higgins, Jane Larson, Teemu Ruskola, Ruthann Robson, and Richard Storrow.



2005 Conference Organizers and Speakers for The Global Impact of Feminist Legal Theory



Professor Vicki Schultz

In **2006**, the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer at the Women and the Law Conference on ***Sexuality at Work*** was Professor Vicki Schultz of Yale Law School. Her keynote talk on “The Sanitized Workplace” argued that managers use and transform sexual harassment law from a doctrine meant to advance women’s equality into one designed to banish all workplace sexuality, including harmless banter and dating, even when such behavior has no effect on gender equality. Finding value in certain kinds of sexual expression in gender-desegregated work environments, Professor Schultz supports legal reform that updates conceptions of gender equality and organizational rationality and incorporates, under appropriate circumstances, sexuality and intimacy. Commentators on the implications of Professor Schultz’s work for women, people of color, gays and lesbians, immigrant workers, and organized labor included Ruben Garcia, Zachary Kramer, Barbara Lawless, M. Isabel Medina, Rich Paul, and Christine Williams.



Professor Rochelle Dreyfuss

At the Seventh Annual Conference in **2007**, ***Virtual Women: Emerging Issues in Gender and Intellectual Property Law***, Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer Rochelle Dreyfuss of the New York University School of Law spoke about gender effects of incentive structures of the creative fields in her talk “Girls Just Want to Have Fun: What Can Feminist Theory Tell Us About Incentives?” Four panels of speakers, including Ann Bartow, Dr. Boatema Boateng, Dan L. Burk, Dr. Carys J. Craig, Mallary DeMerlier, Michele Goodwin, Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professor K.J. Greene, Christine Haight Farley, Eileen Kane, Mary LaFrance, Doris Estelle Long, Malla Pollack, Adrien Pruetz, and Rebecca Tushnet, discussed the theoretical underpinnings

of gender and intellectual property, the culture of gender and intellectual property, and gender issues in patent law.



Professor Barbara Palmer

The **2008** conference centered on ***Women in Politics: The Role of Gender in Political Decision-Making***. The Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, “Breaking the Political Glass Ceiling: Incumbency, Redistricting and the Success of Women Candidates,” was delivered by Barbara Palmer of American University. She was joined by an array of women from the political arena, including California State Senator Christine Kehoe, San Diego District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis, former advisor to President Carter Midge Costanza, San Diego City Councilwoman Donna Frye, and U.S. Attorney Karen Hewitt, as well as several academic speakers from a variety of disciplines. Topics included special challenges facing women politicians; the intersectional effects of race, class and gender in elections; the role of gender in campaign messages; gender voting patterns; partisan differences in the nomination of women to office; female congressional candidates; and the role of gender in voting patterns.



2008 Speakers: Susan Taylor, Barbara Burrell, Donna Frye, Midge Costanza, and Lynn Schenk

The Ninth Annual Conference in **2009**, co-sponsored by the Relationship Training Institute, addressed one of the toughest issues facing the legal system and society in general - the epidemic of domestic violence in the United States. The conference, ***Confronting Domestic Violence Head On: The***



Professor Cheryl Hanna

Role of Power in Domestic Relationships, began with domestic violence survivors from a variety of backgrounds sharing their stories. Police officers, prosecutors, defense counsel, domestic violence shelter operators and custody mediators discussed their frustrations with the legal

theories and remedies currently available in domestic violence cases. Psychiatrists, relationship counselors and batterers' intervention experts revealed the most recent evidence regarding the causes and effects of domestic violence. In addition, best-selling authors Susan Weitzman, Sandra Brown, Patricia Evans, and David Wexler shared their insights regarding domestic violence. Vermont Law School Professor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer Cheryl Hanna addressed the central dilemma in the legal system's treatment of domestic violence in her talk, "Behind the Castle Walls: Balancing Privacy and Security in Domestic Abuse Cases." Finally, legal scholars, including Douglas Beloof, Emily Sack, and Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professors Claire Wright, Steve Berenson, and Ilene Durst, discussed their specific proposals for improving the legal remedies available in civil and criminal cases involving domestic violence. This conference has led to a number of on-going efforts at Thomas Jefferson Law School to combat domestic violence,

including the establishment of a clinic through which students and professors provide pro bono legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, in collaboration with the San Diego Family Justice Center.



Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw

In **2010**, Thomas Jefferson broadened the scope of the Women and the Law Project by teaming with the UCLA School of Law's Critical Race Studies Program, led by Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw. The Women and the Law Project became a Principal Co-Sponsor of the

Fourth Annual Critical Race Studies Symposium at UCLA in March 2010, a conference featuring leading feminist scholars, including Catharine MacKinnon, Mari Matsuda and Patricia Williams. Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw then delivered the Ginsburg Lecture, ***Intersectionality and Women of Color***, at Thomas Jefferson in April 2010. She was joined by a distinguished panel of Critical Race scholars, including Professors Cheryl Harris, Russell Robinson, and Saul Sarabia.

In **2011**, the Tenth Anniversary Women and the Law Conference, which was co-sponsored by the California Indian Law Association, focused on ***Gender Justice and Indian Sovereignty: Native American Women and the Law***. Stacy L.



2010 Conference Organizers and Speakers for Women of Color and Intersectionality



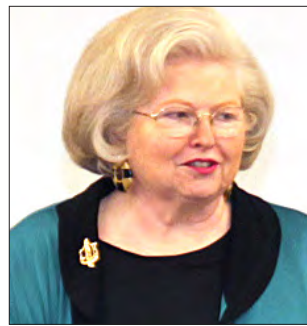
2011 Conference Organizers and Speakers for Gender Justice and Indian Sovereignty: Native American Women and the Law

Leeds, Interim Associate Dean and Professor at the University of Kansas School of Law, delivered the Ginsburg Lecture, “Resistance, Resilience, and Reconciliation: Reflections on Native American Women and the Law.” Professor Leeds, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, drew upon her experience as a judge on several tribal courts, including her service as Chief Justice of the Supreme Courts for the Kickapoo Tribe and the Kaw Nation, and her former service as a Justice of the Cherokee Nation Supreme Court. She was joined by a remarkable national assemblage of additional speakers, including American Indian women judges, practitioners, and academics from across the country.



*Professor and Justice
Stacy Leeds*

The 2012 conference, *Reproductive Justice: Examining Choice and Autonomy in the New Millennium*, was co-sponsored by Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest.



Dr. Sarah Weddington

The conference focused on a broad spectrum of legal, social, scientific and policy issues. Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer Dr. Sarah Weddington, lead counsel for the plaintiff in *Roe v. Wade*, fascinated the audience during her talk, “Women Lawyers:

The Importance of Leadership,” when she described her personal experience as a very young attorney preparing and arguing the landmark Supreme Court case, as well as her subsequent contributions in politics and education. Three panels of speakers, including Professors Brenda Simon, Hank Greely, Martha M. Ertman, Rene Almeling, Priscilla Smith, Nancy Ehrenreich, Khiara M. Bridges, Courtney G. Joslin, and Lisa Ikemoto and policy expert Vince Hall, provided insight on a broad range of reproductive rights topics, including post *Roe v. Wade* developments in the laws regulating access to abortion, commodification, autonomy, intersectionality and marginalized populations.



2012 Conference Organizers and Speakers for Reproductive Justice: Examining Choice and Autonomy in the New Millennium



2013 Conference Organizers and Speakers for Her Honor: Women in the Judiciary

For the **2013** Women and the Law Conference, Thomas Jefferson School of Law presented prestigious jurists and distinguished academics discussing ***Her Honor: Women in the Judiciary***. This conference celebrated female judges and examined the importance of women in the judiciary. Speakers discussed the important effect women judges have had on the judicial system and legal regimes. They also examined the special accomplishments of and the challenges facing women



Professor Susan Williams

in the judiciary. In a special Q & A session, honored guest U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg shared her perspectives as the second appointed female member of the nation's highest court. The 2013 Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer was Susan Williams, the Walter W. Foskett Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Constitutional Democracy at the Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Professor Williams has authored numerous books and articles on feminist theory and constitutional law. Other jurists and academics sharing their global and domestic insights included Former French Supreme Court Justice Noëlle Lenoir; Justice Carlos Augusto Ayres de Freitas Britto, former Chief Justice Supreme Federal Court of Brazil (retired); Justice Laurie Zelon of the California

Court of Appeal; Carla Pratt of Pennsylvania State Dickinson School of Law and Associate Justice of the Standing Rock Sioux Supreme Court; Leslie Kuan-Hsi Wang of Zhejiang University Guanghua Law School; Nienke Grossman of University of Baltimore School of Law; Sally Kenney of Tulane University; and Lillian Lim, San Diego Superior Court Judge (retired) and Thomas Jefferson alumna.

The **2014** Women and the Law Conference gathers together a slate of luminaries in military leadership to explore the unique forces shaping women's access to power in the U.S. military. The conference focuses on a number of issues, including whether new statistics on sexual assault in the military warrant legislative changes to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and explores the topic of women serving in elite combat units.



*Captain Stacy Pedrozo
Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer*

*Vice Admiral Nanette DeRenzi
Keynote Speaker*

WOMEN AT THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW

The Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture Series and the annual Women and the Law Conference are only two aspects of the important role of women at Thomas Jefferson School of Law. At Thomas Jefferson, faculty, administration, staff and students work together to create a unique learning atmosphere in which women are given the opportunity to excel.



May 2011 Valedictorian Dea Franck

Empirical research demonstrates that female students at many other law schools may not perform as well as male students who entered law school with comparable academic credentials. The same is not true of women who choose to attend Thomas Jefferson. In recent years, approximately half of our student population has been women. Four of the last eight valedictorians have been women and in recent graduating classes, women have made up approximately one-



December 2011 Valedictorian Melissa A. Lewis

half of the summa cum laude graduates. In 2011, seventy percent of the summa cum laude graduates were women. Female law students also are chosen for positions of honor by their peers. Women always have a significant presence on the managing board of the Thomas Jefferson Law Review.

A Law School Admission Council study ranked Thomas Jefferson eleventh in the nation for percentage of women on the faculty, but this number does not tell the whole story. Many law schools have increased the number of female faculty members they have hired. Recent studies indicate that these women are often hired into non-tenure track, lower-paying and lower prestige jobs. At Thomas Jefferson, however, women comprise approximately half of the tenured, tenure track and full professors. Few, if any, law schools in the country have come close to matching this consistently high percentage of successful female faculty members.



December 2013 Valedictorian Tristin Sullivan-Leppa

Finally, almost one-third of the full-time Thomas Jefferson faculty members include gender as a special focus of their research and teaching. Their scholarship includes articles and books on workplace sex discrimination; women and human rights law; gay, lesbian, transgender and other sexual identity issues; women migrants; sexual privacy issues; women's treatment by the medical profession; assisted reproductive technologies; sex slavery and trafficking; the intersection of gender, race and intellectual property; and women's rights and cultural groups.

ORGANIZERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE ANNUAL WOMEN AND THE LAW CONFERENCE



SUSAN BISOM-RAPP
2001, 2003, 2005, 2006



JULIE GREENBERG
2001, 2004, 2006, 2008



SUSAN TIEFENBRUN
2001, 2002



MARYBETH HERALD
2004



LINDA KELLER
2005



WILLIAM SLOMANSON



LORI WULFEMEYER



SANDRA RIERSON
2007, 2008



JULIE CROMER-YOUNG
2007, 2013



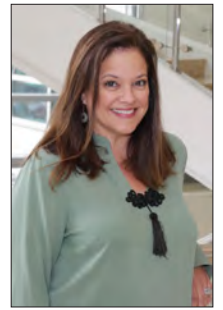
CLAIRE WRIGHT
2009



KAIMIPONO WENGER
2010



BRYAN WILDENTHAL
2011



JOY DELMAN
2012



MAUREEN MARKEY
2012



THOM GOLDEN
2012



MEERA DEO
2013



AMY DAY
2014

