

Hawai'i Women Lawyers

January 2002

You can also find us at: <http://www.hsba.org/sections/HWL/hwl.html>

Upcoming Events

It's not too late!

Join HWL in honoring the following women:

General Carol Wong Pietsch
Pat McManaman
Beadie Dawson
Judge Frances Q.F. Wong
Allicyn Hikida Tasaka
Annelle Amaral

The Awards will be presented on January 25, 2001 at the Plaza Club in the Main Dining Room, 900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1800, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The cost of attending the banquet is \$30.00 per person. To make your reservation, please e-mail Erin Uyeda at eu@miyasaki.com or call her at 521-3255 and mail your check, for \$30 per person payable to Hawaii Women Lawyers, to her at Pacific Tower, Suite 1030, 1001 Bishop Street, Honolulu, HI 96813, by January 18. Please include the names of all your guests with your reservation. We will be serving pupus and offering script for beverages. Discounted parking (\$2.40) in the Pioneer Plaza building will be available after 5 p.m.

Joy Miyasaki's Notes on the recent Lunch Presentation on the Islamic Faith . . .

American-born Shereen El-Kadi and her Egyptian-born mother, Faten El-Kadi, spoke at our December lunch, telling us about dating, marriage, and women in the Islamic faith. They welcomed questions, and we asked many, but the final answer will always be "because God said so," Shereen said.

For traditionalists, there is no Western-style dating before marriage. The man first asks the woman's father for approval. The father does the "screening," according to Shereen. If the father says yes, the daughter is asked. If she says yes, the couple becomes formally engaged, and they see each

COMMENTS NEEDED ON JUDICIAL RETENTION

DEADLINE: February 15, 2002

The Judicial Selection Commission has announced that the terms of the following Judges will expire on the following dates:

The Honorable **Steven H. Levinson**, Associate Justice, Hawaii Supreme Court (April 6, 2002)

The Honorable **John S. Burns**, Chief Judge, Intermediate Court of Appeals (May 13, 2002)

The Honorable **Corinne K.A. Watanabe**, Associate Judge, Intermediate Court of Appeals (May 10, 2002)

The Honorable **Karen N. Blondin**, Judge, Circuit Court of the First Circuit (May 10, 2002)

The Honorable **Gail C. Nakatani**, Judge, Circuit Court of the First Circuit (May 10, 2002)

The Honorable **Frances Q.F. Wong**, Judge, Circuit Court of the First Circuit (May 10, 2002)

These Judges have petitioned to be retained in office for new terms. The Judicial Selection Commission will determine whether these judges should be retained in office.

Hawaii Women Lawyers strongly urges its membership to submit written information and comments on whether any of these judges should be retained. Your comments will be kept confidential by the Judicial Selection Commission, and should be delivered before February 15, 2002 to:

Amy Agbayani, Chair
Judicial Selection Commission
State of Hawaii
417 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

other in supervised visits. It is not uncommon for an engagement to be broken off.

The marriage contract is considered one of the most important contracts, more important than commercial contracts. A couple is free to write anything into their marriage contract. Possible provisions might be the dowry to be given to the bride or who gets what in the event of a divorce. And, no, lawyers are not used to draft them. Birth control is permitted to

"regulate," but not to "prevent," pregnancy. A husband is required to support his family, and if a married woman works, her earnings are her own to spend as she wishes.

Divorce is allowed but only after mediation and as a last resort. There are specific grounds for which a divorce may be obtained, such as lack of support, abuse, or a criminal conviction. On the

(Continued on page 2)

Hawai'i Women Lawyers

HWL Newsletter is published ten times a year.
Write to us at: P.O. Box 2072
Honolulu, HI 96805

President: ~~April Wilson-South~~
~~april@hicre.org~~

Vice-Pres.: ~~Joy Miyasaki~~
~~lmiyasaki@aol.com~~

Secretary: ~~Lane Hornfeek~~
~~lhornfeek@stamlaw.com~~

Treasurer: ~~Lauren Rauschenburg Sharkey~~
~~lsharkey@tom-petrus.com~~

Directors:
Stacey Djou ~~sdjou@cades.com~~
Hilary Benson Gangnes ~~hgangnes@consumerlaw.com~~

~~Jeanne Grimes~~ ~~jgrimes@carlsmith.com~~
~~Yvonne Lau~~ ~~ylau@hawaii.rr.com~~
~~Anne Lopez~~ ~~lopezan@hawaii.rr.com~~
~~Lynne Jenkins McGivern~~ ~~lmegivern@awlaw.com~~
~~Emi Morita~~ ~~emorita@hawaii.edu~~
~~Julia Morgan~~ ~~juliammorgan@aol.com~~
~~Melissa Pavlicek~~ ~~MtPavlicek@lawcsilc.com~~
~~Shawna-Sodersten~~ ~~shawnas@stoptheviolence.org~~
~~Malia-Taum~~ ~~wlash@pixi.com~~

(Continued from page 1)

other hand, a woman may obtain a divorce without a specific reason as long as she returns the dowry given to her. Remarriage after divorce is allowed.

Both Shereen and Faten wear the hijab, the traditional head covering for women. Shereen said that women are supposed to wear it, but "it's a personal decision," usually made during adolescence. Faten said she feels "protected" wearing the hijab. "If you're wearing it, a man's got to be crazy to harass you," she said. She also feels that people associate with you for your "knowledge or intelligence," rather than what you look like on the outside. Nonetheless, the hijab can be a matter of style. There are trends in fabrics and colors and ways to tie it.

For those who wish to learn more about women in the Islamic faith, Shereen recommended, "Women in Sharaiah," by Abdur Rahman I. Doi.

Hawaii Women Lawyers is a non-profit organization of men and women, founded in 1976, committed to: Improving the lives and careers of women in all aspects of the legal profession, influencing the future of the legal profession, and enhancing the status of women and promoting equal opportunities for all people.

HWL annually elects members to serve on its 15-member board of directors. Members volunteer to serve on committees such as the Legislative, Newsletter, Programs, Projects, Publicity, Judicial Equity and Membership committees. HWL is supported by the dues paid by its members and grant funding from the Hawaii Women's Legal Foundation and other organizations.

Bronster Crabtree & Hoshibata
Attorneys at Law

REGISTERED
JAN 17 2002

Gangnes, Hilary Benson
Pauahi Twp.
1001 Bishop St., Ste. 2300
Honolulu, HI 96813

PRE-SORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HONOLULU, HI
PERMIT NO. 172

HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS
P.O. BOX 2072
HONOLULU, HI 96805