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Dr. Carrie Baker Selected as the 2011 Jane Velez-Mitchell Journalism Award Honoree



Portland, OR (November 29, 2010) – Soroptimist International Northwestern Region and the Northwest Coalition Against Trafficking announced today that **Dr. Carrie Baker** from Atlanta, Georgia will be the first honoree of the Jane Velez-Mitchell Journalism Award! The Jane Velez-Mitchell Journalism Award is named after award-winning journalist **Jane Velez-Mitchell**, host of “Issues” on HLN. “I am proud to support such an honorable and urgent cause by encouraging journalists to cover the critical issues affecting women. Fighting the “war on women” must become a priority in our society...this can be accomplished only by making it a priority in our national dialogue,” said Velez-Mitchell.

Dr. Baker is an Associate Professor in Department of Sociology and Anthropology, teaching sociology, women’s studies, and legal studies courses at Berry. She holds a B.A. in Philosophy from Yale University and a J.D. and Ph.D. in Women’s Studies from Emory University. Dr. Baker was Editor in Chief of the Emory Law Journal while in law school and later served as a law clerk to United States District Court Judge Marvin Shoob in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Baker's primary areas of research are women’s legal history, gender and public policy, and women’s social movements. Dr. Baker's book, *The Women's Movement Against Sexual Harassment*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2007 and won the National Women’s Studies Association 2008 Sara A. Whaley book prize.

The Jane Velez-Mitchell Award recognizes excellence in coverage of news of local, national, and international significance, with a single award for either a print or broadcast journalist who uses the power of media and his or her position to highlight the ongoing violence against women and girls, whether domestic violence, human trafficking, kidnapping and abductions, hate crimes, or other despicable crimes and violence against women and girls.

The honoree(s) of this prestigious award will be recognized for her/his ability to keep women and girls a focus point in their messages to their audience and the public. Their dedication and support of Soroptimist principles will be acknowledged in an award presentation every year.

The JVM Journalism Award will be awarded on January 15, 2011 in Portland, Oregon during Soroptimist’s 3rd Annual Northwest Conference Against Trafficking by Velez-Mitchell. For more information on the conference visit www.NWCAAT.org.