

Jones Center News Digest, Issue 5

October 2020

The Nathaniel R. Jones Center is committed to participating in and furthering conversations and activities that seek to shine light on and work to eliminate the racism, sexism, heterosexism, and other inequalities so rampant in our local, national, and global communities. We believe sharing information that highlights the intersectional nature of historical and present-day inequities matters and makes a difference in advancing our shared goals for social change. Review our statement: [In Struggle and Solidarity](#).

Proud Moment: 100th Anniversary of 19th Amendment

We are honored to have co-sponsored the ABA Banner Exhibit on the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment with the College of Law Library, and to share the following resources about the 19th Amendment. The Exhibit showcased artifacts, details, and historic photos about the battle for ratification, and was on display at UC Law for the first two weeks of October.

For detailed historical information on the 19th Amendment and other movements for voting rights, from an intersectional perspective, watch a documentary produced by students in Dr. Kalsem's Feminist Jurisprudence course.

Watch: [Feminist Jurisprudence 19th Amendment](#) from student filmmakers Alexa Edwards, Claire Cooperrider, Helen Dietsch, and Mackenzie Stenroos.

Social Justice Fellow Janelle Thompson's ('22) winning essay on the 19th amendment was featured in the March/April 2020 issue of the CBA Report.

Read: [The Past, Present, and Future of the 19th Amendment](#), by Janelle Thompson

The 19th Amendment Panel Discussion featured Stephanie J. Jones, President, [The Call to Justice Foundation](#), and Dr. Nikki M. Taylor, Professor of History and Department Chair, Howard University. The panelists shared their combined expertise in the areas of African American and Women's history and in civic, community, and political engagement, before participating in a Q&A session with attendees.

Watch: ["Intersectionality and the 19th Amendment"](#)

History Matters

Myths about physical and racial differences are the focus of an article by Linda Villarosa in *The New York Times Magazine*. Her work is part of the magazine's 1619 Project, an initiative that is calling to light the reframing of US history and national narratives, based on the consequences of slavery and the contributions of Black Americans.

Read: ["Racial Differences"](#), by Linda Villarosa

Community Matters

Racial injustices have sparked a wave of protest music, and NPR's *We Insist* offers a timeline and playlist of a variety of songs and videos that confront both the historical mistreatment of Black citizens and the racial injustices of 2020. Protest music is also the theme of the Jones Center's Less Urgent Conversations on November 16, 2020.

Listen: [We Insist](#), on NPR

The YWCA Racial Justice Breakfast in September featured Christina Fialho, director of [Freedom for Immigrants](#).

Watch: [YWCA Racial Justice Breakfast Presentations](#)

UC Law partnered with six law schools to offer the Law School Anti-Racist Coalition's Teach-In. The virtual sessions addressed a variety of topics including water rights, implicit bias in bankruptcy law and anti-racist practices in legal education. Emily Houh, professor and co-director of the Jones Center, and Felix Chang, associate dean of faculty, professor, and co-director of the Corporate Law Center participated.

Watch: [Sessions from Anti-Racist Teach-In](#)

Follow the journey of immigrant Dayani Cristal in a documentary from award-winning film director Marc Silver.

Watch: [Who is Dayani Cristal](#), by Marc Silver.

UC Law's Domestic Violence and Civil Protection order Clinic gives students practical experience in the civil setting and provides holistic legal services to survivors of domestic violence. Clinic students consult extensively with clients on the benefits and risks of taking legal action, discuss safety concerns, make referrals to other providers (as needed), and represent clients through the civil protection order process.

Director Anne Lucas is a 2002 alumna of the College of Law. She also earned a master's degree in joint Women's Studies/Law Program—currently known as [WGSS \(Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies\)](#). Lucas served as a legal aid attorney in both Connecticut and with the Greater Cincinnati Legal Aid Society, practicing in the family law area. Most recently, she served as managing attorney for the Volunteer Lawyers' Project. At the College of Law, she has previously served as an adjunct professor and a past supervisor and instructor for the Domestic Violence Clinic.

UC Law's Domestic Violence and Civil Protection order Clinic: Student Profiles

Claire Cooperrider '21

"I hope to develop my client counseling skills and help people through challenging and frightening circumstances in a professional and compassionate way. I want to learn more about the cycle of abuse, and how families, especially children, are affected by domestic violence. I have domestic relations experience, and my goal is to have a career in family law. However, I feel that I cannot be an excellent family law attorney without having experience working directly with domestic violence victims, and learning the procedures involved in this delicate field."

Alexa Edwards '21

"While many things and many areas of the law represent human and civil rights issues, I have always been most interested and aware of gender issues and the intersection of gender with other aspects of identity. I believe all human rights issues are affected by gender inequality. I hope to follow a path that may one day allow me to not simply address and discuss topics of inequality and injustice, but to assist individuals in fighting against oppression they deal with because of their identities or other outside forces."

Lauren Johnson '21

"Educational and professional experiences before law school] taught me how widespread domestic violence is, and how important advocates are to the prevention of future violence. I believe that as law students, we have the knowledge and therefore a duty to be resources for women who are seeking support, and part of the solution to preventing violence against women and children."

Kristina McGinnis '21

"I have never had the opportunity to work specifically in the civil sphere helping indigent clients obtain protective orders and I would like to not only gain more knowledge of the civil side of the law but also gain more experience working firsthand with clients who are dealing with high conflict and stressful situations and helping them however I am able to."

Emily Medosch '22

"When I interned with Women Helping Women through my undergraduate university, we assisted victims with filling out CPO/TPO paperwork and attempted to offer them resources throughout the legal and medical processes. This experience is what pushed me to go to law school and when I heard about the Domestic Violence & Civil Protection Order Clinic, I was eager to get involved. The process of obtaining a CPO is very draining and the situation as a whole can be extremely traumatic for the victim. I would love to be able to help make this process even a little bit easier for victims."

Morgan Mitchell '22

"My future career is representing women migrant farmworkers who have been sexually assaulted or harassed by their employers or family members. My goal is to learn the ins and outs and everyday steps taken to help survivors of domestic violence and experience what this work looks like in action. My goal is to learn the ins and outs and everyday steps taken to help survivors of domestic violence and experience what this work looks like in action."

Mackenzie Stenroos '21

"Victims of domestic violence are often too scared to come forward and ask for help out of fear that it will make their situation worse or that no one will believe them. Through this clinic, I would be given the invaluable opportunity to work with these victims and provide them with the reassurance, encouragement, and confidence necessary to potentially save their lives."

Perspective Matters

In an interview on WAMC public radio, bestselling author Adam Cohen discusses his book, *Imbecile: The Supreme Court, American Eugenics and the Sterilization of Carrie Buck*.

Listen: [The Supreme Court, American Eugenics, and the Sterilization of Carrie Buck](#), by Joe Donahue

Transformative justice, restorative justice, and prison abolition were the topics of our virtual Coffee Corner on Friday, October 16, which featured K Agbebiyi, co-creator of 8toAbolition.

Read: [List of Resources](#), by K Agbebiyi

Our own Prof. Emily Houh was invited by the student members of the University of Michigan Law School National Lawyers Guild chapter to speak on a panel called, "Unpacking Contract Law: Race, Inequality, and 'Freedom of Contract,'" along with Prof. Deborah Zalesne (CUNY School of Law), and Prof. Nicolas Cornell (Michigan Law). Many Cincinnati Law NLG student members also attended the virtual event, which was recorded and is shared below.

Watch: [Unpacking Contract Law: Race, Inequality, and "Freedom of Contract"](#) at Michigan Law

Jones Center Calendar of Events

October 2020	November 2020	April 2021
M, 10/26, 7:00 PM. Urgent Conversations: Lack of Police Accountability.	TH, 11/5, 12:15 Symposium honoring Judge Jones.	TH, 4/8 Conference on Transnational Whiteness and Transnational Blackness—stay tuned for details.
	M, 11/16, 7:00 PM. Less Urgent Conversations: Protest Music.	

In Struggle and Solidarity—Statement of the Nathaniel R. Jones Center for Race, Gender, and Social Justice

Once again, our nation's history—a history borne of conquest, chattel slavery, and exclusion—is erupting into our explosive present. Covid-19, when it finally hit our shores, flagrantly exposed with undeniable clarity the deep structural inequalities created and perpetuated by state and federal policies that have purported to lift up and support all Americans, and the deeply embedded racial biases regularly employed to blame “others” for the failures of our own systems. And now, once again, recent police killings of several unarmed Black and Brown citizens like Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and Breonna Taylor—among so many others—have moved those who suffer most severely the consequences of systemic inequality to action. Once again, our nation is being called on to account for and reckon with our past and our present so that we can finally halt the seemingly endless cycle—a cycle that we've been caught in since our beginnings—of superficial and narrow commitments to “equality” that have led only to more entrenched racial, gender, sex, and class inequality – and as a result, to more despair-fueled anger and necessary struggle. Our Center—named after the late Nathaniel R. Jones, an iconic civil rights leader and a federal court of appeals judge in the latter part of his career—is committed to helping our students and others to, as Judge Jones put it, “answer the call” – the call to face head-on the complicated and violent past and present that have brought us to this point. We pledge our continued support for and engagement in the struggle toward real equality and liberation—in whatever ways we can—and always in solidarity