Letter From The Editor

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Recommended Citation
Courtney Squires, Letter From The Editor, 27 RICH. PUB. INT. L. REV. x ()
Available at: https://scholarship.richmond.edu/pilr/vol27/iss3/2

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Courtney Squires
Dear Readers,

On behalf of the Richmond Public Interest Law Review, it is my honor to present the third and final issue of Volume XXVII: the General Topics Issue. In this issue, authors discuss a wide range of critical topics affecting the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation as a whole. The General Topics Issue opens with a piece from Dr. Harold Hinds, discussing the educational experiences, and lack of religious and social protections, for Muslim American students in America’s public schools. The second article, written by Dr. Gary Kowaluk, analyzes a series of labor trafficking cases in the United States, and provides a thoughtful reflection of the common themes and practices that are at the root of the labor trafficking epidemic. The issue continues with an article from a team lead by Professor Michael Perlin, addressing federal courts’ puzzling adherence to Barefoot v. Estelle, in light of the landmark ruling in Daubert v. Merrill Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc., which the authors suggest implicitly overruled Barefoot.

The second half of the issue features pieces from three student authors. The first student article is from Marley Manjarrez, who discusses ways to remedy the “blind spots” in the current system of collecting air quality data. The next student article, written by Courtney Mason, paints a powerful comparison between the Classical Civil Rights Movement and the current Black Lives Matter Movement, highlighting the common themes inherent to each. Finally, this General Topics Issue concludes with a student article from Amanda Palini, in which she critiques the Commonwealth’s current approach to educating youth on intimate partner violence, calling instead for a more effective primary prevention model that starts earlier in the life course of education.

I would like to acknowledge the General Topics Editors, Ashley Davis and Bailey Ellicott, for their thoughtful article selection and the work they put into publishing this issue. My sincerest gratitude to the entire staff of the Richmond Public Interest Law Review for their contributions to this issue, and all the time and energy they put into this journal over the past year. To the authors, thank you for your contributions herein, and for bringing awareness to the critical issues highlighted by this issue. On behalf of the Richmond Public Interest Law Review, I hope this issue encourages thoughtful discourse on these important topics for years to come.
Sincerely,

Courtney Squires

*Editor-in-Chief*