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## Editor's Note

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

At a time when questions regarding the constitutionality of stop and frisk polices, gay rights, and access to health care remain constantly in the forefront of American discourse, scholarship becomes important to advance their discussion. Whether for or against the Affordable Care Act or gay marriage, America must nonetheless face the issues that arise from their momentum.

In this issue of the Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice, the authors discuss social issues that continue to resurface with morphed visages. The articles cover gay marriage and its effect on determining legal parenthood, the racial element in unlawful stops, racial concentrations in charter schools, and the benefits women can offer in negotiations.

Also, the Journal is privileged to publish student Notes by three Washington and Lee law graduates of the class of 2012. The Notes explore changing consent standards for modern medical studies, the medical necessity for gender reassignment, and the quality of healthcare for Native Americans under the Indian Health Care Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2009.

I would like to express my gratitude to the editorial board of 2012-2013 for their invaluable help in publishing this issue. A special thank you goes to the Journal's administrators, Elizabeth Christensen and Leigh Walters, for their endless support. Elizabeth, thank you for your advice and good luck on your new journey. Leigh, thank you for diving into this project and fearlessly marching forward alongside a new pilot.

The Journal would like to welcome and wish luck to our new dean, Nora V. Demleitner. Also, many thanks to Professor Ann Massie for her dedication and support. And finally, the Journal would like to extend its gratitude to the administration of Washington and Lee School of Law for allowing us to maintain a forum to discuss such critical social issues.

Cristina Becker  
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