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Editor's Note

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Editor's Note

The *Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice* seeks to provide a space for scholarship with a primary focus on legal issues and perspectives which advance ideas of equality, equity, and call out injustices impacting a variety of communities.

Volume 30, Issue 1 of the *Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice* provides a space for such dialog with a particular emphasis on international perspectives. In this issue, we are pleased to publish two Articles which focus on social justice topics in Africa. The first, titled *Exploring the African Regional Human Rights Standards as the Basis for an Enabling Environment for Self-Managed Abortion* is authored by Lucia Berro Pizzarossa, Michelle Maziwisa, and Ebenezer Durojaye. This Article argues that self-managed abortion holds great promise to save lives, promote reproductive autonomy, and identifies a series of human rights standards that can ground developments which will create an enabling legal environment for self-managed abortions. *The low-hanging fruit: Health, Rights, and the Commission* by Bright Nkrumah reflects on the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights following the Commission's 35th anniversary and observes paths forward to advance the right to health in Africa. The final Article, *The Right to Hope* by Juan Carlos Riofrio explores the possible legal justifications and scope of the right to hope. Although we did not intentionally select our Articles this way, we are happy to be highlighting international perspectives across all three of our Articles in Volume 30, Issue 1. Civil rights and social justice are universally important topics, and by looking to international scholars, cases, and perspectives are able to contribute to the much larger global conversation.

We are also excited to publish four student notes written by members of the 2023-2024 editorial board. Topics range from complex bankruptcy maneuvers to public nuisance receiverships to mechanisms in which online influencers are harassed by the public. *A Miscarriage of Justice: How Femtech Apps and Fog Data Evade Fourth Amendment Privacy Protections* written by 3L Rachel Silver, was the recipient of the 2023 Louise A. Halper Award for Best Student Note. Each of these student notes represents countless hours of diligent research and writing, and I congratulate each of the students who are published in this issue. It is no small feat, and certainly worth celebrating.

I would like to thank the entirety of the 2023-2024 Editorial Board for all of their hard work putting this book together, and especially recognize the 2023-2024 Staff Writers. Issue 1 represents their first contribution to the *Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice* and likely to legal scholarship at large. I am sure there was plenty of apprehension across the 2023-2024 Editorial Board as we all stepped into our new roles, and I'd like to thank everyone for their diligence and empathy as we began our journey with Volume 30. I am excited to see what else is in store for Volume 30.

Olivia C. Maier
Editor in Chief