

INTRODUCTION

After 7 years of hiatus, we are grateful to be restarting the Washington University Undergraduate Law Review. The opportunity to deeply engage with issues of the law has never been more important. We are living at a time of monumental shifts as the Supreme Court has made disturbing rulings on issues ranging from abortion to environmental regulation to Native American rights. On the state level, state legislatures have introduced bills that weaponize the law to target the most vulnerable communities, including pregnant people, transgender youth, undocumented migrants, and LGBTQIA+ communities. Whether you intend to attend law school or not, understanding the implications of these legal changes is necessary to understand our rights and mobilize towards justice.

This publication is an avenue for people to investigate meaningful questions of law and philosophy, politics, and morality, questions that we believe are necessary to understand what constitutes the common good and how we can achieve it. In a diverse and fast-paced world, we need innovative perspectives to add nuance and critique to the ways that legal institutions operate. This issue highlights the thoughts of students from undergraduate institutions across the United States, with papers engaging with different types of law.

We thank our faculty advisor Megan Peabody, Washington University library staff Treasa Bane and Emily Stenberg, the Washington University School of Law, and all of our writers for making this issue possible.

Lastly, echoing the sentiments of prior editorial teams, we thank you for taking the time to read these articles. We hope these pieces will offer you new perspectives on ethics, agency, and justice that compel you to work towards a more equitable world.

Ranen Miao
Editor-in-Chief