



**Georgetown Law Clinics**  
Winter 2021 Newsletter

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Dear Colleagues,

I'm delighted to share some exciting programmatic updates with you as the calendar year comes to a close. From the addition of a new clinic – the Racial Equity in Education Law and Policy Clinic – and hiring of two tenure-track faculty members, to the creation of a new endowed client support fund, and the publication of our faculty members' new books, there is a lot to celebrate at Georgetown as we reflect on the past couple of months.

I wish you and your families a happy holiday season and best wishes for the New Year!

Erica Hashimoto (L'97)  
Associate Dean for Clinics and Experiential Programs

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**Introducing Our New Tenure-Track Clinicians**

***Professor Janel George***

Professor Janel George joins Georgetown Law as the founding director of our newest clinic, the Racial Equity in Education Law and Policy (REELP) Clinic. Professor George brings with her a wealth of experience in legislative law and policy advocacy. The clinic will partner with selected clients whose work involves advancing racial equity in education, which could include nationally focused organizations, smaller local groups or even student-led organizations.

After graduating from Spelman College, Professor George worked with domestic violence survivors, a role in which she often interacted with lawyers and saw the kind of advocacy that was possible with a law degree. While earning her J.D. at the University of Wisconsin Madison, she continued exploring a career in advocacy with an internship at the Children's Defense Fund, then came to Georgetown Law as a Women's Law and Public Policy Fellow.

Other career highlights for Professor George include legislative counsel positions



on Capitol Hill, a Senior Education Policy Counsel position with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., adjunct teaching at both Georgetown Law and the McCourt School of Public Policy and most recently, working on issues of educational equity as a senior policy advisor with the Learning Policy Institute.

**Professor Dave Rapallo**

Professor Dave Rapallo (LL.M.'97, LL.M.'99) has returned to Georgetown Law after more than two decades as a lawyer on Capitol Hill and in the White House, to lead the Law Center's Federal Legislation Clinic – where he was an inaugural fellow when the clinic was founded in the 1990's.

A California native, Professor Rapallo discovered an affinity for legislative law after completing his undergraduate work at the University of California, Los Angeles and his law degree at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. Professor Rapallo then worked in the Clinic and earned two LL.M.s, in advocacy and international law.

He then joined the staff of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform under then-chairman Rep. Henry Waxman. After President Barack Obama's election, Professor Rapallo took the opportunity to join the new administration as senior director and counsel for legislative oversight at the National Security Council. Subsequently, he served as Rep. Elijah Cummings' chief of staff on the House Committee on Oversight and Reform.



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**Faculty Honors**

***Professor Deborah Epstein named an Agnes Williams Sesquicentennial Professor of Law***

We are thrilled to announce that Professor Deborah Epstein has been named an Agnes Williams Sesquicentennial Professor of Law. Professor Epstein has co-directed the Domestic Violence Clinic since joining the Georgetown Law faculty in 1993; she also served as Associate Dean for Experiential Learning from 2005-2012. In addition to directing the DV Clinic, Deborah co-heads the Law Center's clinical teacher training program as the Co-Director of the Clinical Fellowship Program and also serves as Georgetown Law's Coordinator of the Fellows Scholarship and Faculty Recruitment Program. She has spent decades advocating for the rights of survivors of domestic violence and has represented hundreds of women in civil protection order cases and she has championed clinical legal education at the Law Center and nationwide.

Professor Epstein co-chaired the creation of the DC Superior Court's Domestic Violence Division, an early model effort to reform judicial intervention in intimate partner violence. She was a founding Co-Director of the Court's Domestic Violence Intake Center and has served on the DC Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, the DC Mayor's Commission on Violence Against Women, the DC Superior Court



Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, and the Board of Directors of the DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the House of Ruth. In 2018, Professor Epstein resigned from her position on the NFL Players' Association Domestic Violence Commission, in protest against the League's failure to implement recommended reforms. She has written numerous books and articles in the field, and has trained hundreds of police officers, prosecutors, advocates, and judges around the country and internationally. Professor Epstein has received extensive recognition for her work, including most recently in 2020 the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award.

### ***Professor Amanda Levendowski selected by Public Knowledge as a 20/20 Visionary***

Professor Amanda Levendowski, the founder and director of Georgetown Law's Intellectual Property and Information Policy Clinic, has been selected by the technology public interest organization Public Knowledge as a recipient of its 20/20 Visionaries Award. The award honors future tech policy leaders based on their potential to contribute positively to the development of tech policy in the future; demonstrated impact on public interest tech policy; potential to be a future leader; and tech policy experience. Professor Levendowski's scholarship develops creative approaches to technology problems using intellectual property and cyberlaw, and her clinic focuses on counseling work—including strategic advising, policymaking, and impact advocacy—for individuals, non-profits, and other organizations that engage with intellectual property and information policy issues from a public interest perspective.



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### **New Books**

#### **Professor Kristin Henning's "The Rage of Innocence: How America Criminalizes Black Youth"**

In her new book, "The Rage of Innocence: How America Criminalizes Black Youth," Blume Professor of Law and director of the Juvenile Justice Clinic Kristin Henning writes about her 26 years defending Black children prosecuted for offenses including "horseplay" on the Metro, throwing snowballs at a passing police car, and playing catch with a teacher's hat. Her book takes a deep dive into adolescent psychology, the racially disparate responses to normal teenage behavior, and the trauma over-policing creates for Black youth. She also explores dehumanizing practices such as shackling; traces the roots of school-based policing to civil rights protests, not Columbine; and celebrates the resilience of Black youth captured in trends like #BlackGirlMagic and #BlackBoyJoy.

Professor Henning served as a juvenile public defender in Washington, D.C., before joining the Georgetown Law faculty in 2001 to teach in, then lead, and then expand what is now called the Juvenile Justice Clinic and Initiative. In addition to directing JJC, Professor Henning served as Associate Dean for Experiential Learning from 2017-2020.



## Professors Andrew I. Schoenholtz and Philip G. Schrag's "The End of Asylum"

In *The End of Asylum*, Professors and Co-Directors of the Center for Applied Legal Studies (CALS) clinic, Andrew I. Schoenholtz and Philip G. Schrag (along with co-author Jaya Ramji-Nogales) offer a comprehensive examination of the rise and demise of the US asylum system. Beginning with the Refugee Act of 1980, they describe how Congress adopted a definition of refugee based on the UN Refugee Convention and prescribed equitable and transparent procedures for a uniform asylum process. The authors then chart the evolution of this process, showing how Republican and Democratic administrations and Congresses tweaked the asylum system but maintained it as a means of protecting victims of persecution—until the Trump administration. By expanding his executive reach, twisting obscure provisions in the law, undermining past precedents, and creating additional obstacles for asylum seekers, Trump's policies have effectively ended asylum. The book concludes with a roadmap and a call to action for the Biden administration and Congress to repair and reform the US asylum system.



This eye-opening work reveals the extent to which the Trump administration has dismantled fundamental American ideals of freedom from persecution and shows us what we can do about it.

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### **New Endowed Client Support Fund**

We are excited to announce the establishment of a new fund that will support our clients in the Criminal Defense & Prisoner Advocacy Clinic and the Criminal Justice Clinic. The Esmond Nissim Foundation Endowed Client Support Fund was established by David and Isabelle Fuller (P'98) and the trustees of the Esmond Nissim Foundation. This fund supports the efforts of the Criminal Defense & Prisoner Advocacy Clinic and the Criminal Justice Clinic, both of which provide students with an intensive experience that allows them to develop expertise in criminal trial advocacy while representing clients who are incarcerated. This new fund will support the needs of the clinics' newly released clients. Georgetown's motto, *Cura personalis*, means care of the whole person. With this fund, Georgetown is able to enact that motto by committing not only to the legal work of these clinics, but also to the rehabilitation process of impacted prisoners.

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For more information about Georgetown Law's Clinical Program, please visit our website at <https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/>

For any inquiries, please contact [lawclinics@georgetown.edu](mailto:lawclinics@georgetown.edu).