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Panel Tackles the Hard Questions about Regression on Civil Rights

Boston College Law School

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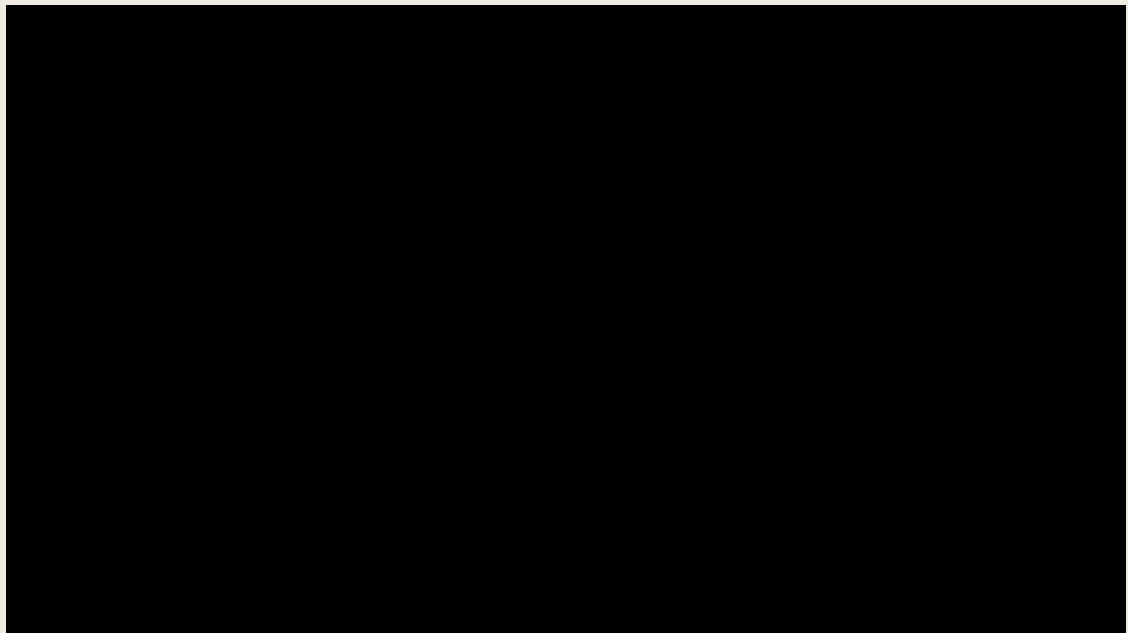
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Panel Tackles the Hard Questions about Regression on Civil Rights

2015 NEWS ARCHIVE

03/12/15

VIDEO LIVESTREAM



Boston College Law School will host the event Civic Engagement in an "Equality Recession" on March 18 at 4:30 pm. The event will take place in the East Wing Building, Room 120. It is free and open to the public.

[Online event listing](#)

Event Description

This past calendar year has marked a variety of milestones with regard to equality in the U.S., including, but not limited to, the 60th year anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*, a landmark case prohibiting segregation in public schools, the 50th year anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, legislation that prohibits racial discrimination with regard to voting practices and the 30th year anniversary of the Black Alumni Network (BAN) of Boston College Law School.

The primary purpose of Civic Engagement in an "Equality Recession" is to celebrate these great achievements, and to have an honest dialogue about the work that remains. Panelists will propose tangible action items that emerging leaders, educators and practitioners can utilize in the ongoing fight for justice and equality.

"Equality recession" is a term coined by the two student event organizers to discuss the current state of affairs in a society marked by advancements in equality with regard to race, followed

by significant reductions after a peak has been reached. "Although there have been significant strides overall since the 1960's, equality in the U.S. has regressed since its recent peaks," said Alvin Reynolds, a third-year student and co-organizer along with second-year student Taisha Sturdivant. "This is similar to the way our economy works. Prominent examples of the recessive behavior with regard to equality include mass incarceration issues, income inequality, education inequality, employment inequality and the recent instances of tension between police forces and minority groups around the U.S."

Participants

Welcome:

BC Law Dean Vincent Rougeau

Panelists:

Charles J. Ogletree, Jr.

Jesse Climenko Professor of Law

Director, Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race & Justice

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Darnell L. Williams

President, CEO, Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts

[Bio](#)

Catharine Wells

Professor of Law, Law School Fund Research Scholar, Boston College

[Bio](#)

Tom Shapiro

Pokross Professor of Law and Social Policy and Director, Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Brandeis University

[Bio](#)

Moderator:

Susan Maze-Rothstein '85

Professor, Northeastern University School of Law

[Bio](#)

Co-sponsors: *The Jesuit Institute at Boston College, the Law School Office of the Dean, the Black Law Students Association*