

Worldwide, recent attention on the role of law and legal systems in creating and perpetuating seemingly intractable racial inequalities and disparities provides an opportunity to create real change.

The new **Center for Law, Equity and Race** (CLEAR) meets the challenge by providing interdisciplinary, hands-on advocacy, learning opportunities, research, legislative engagement and community outreach to create lasting change.

Two dynamic programs are at the core of CLEAR's work:

Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project



The nationally recognized **Civil Rights**and **Restorative Justice Project (CRRJ)**,
founded by Professor Margaret Burnham, is
a leader in investigating and documenting
lynchings and the massive breakdown in
law enforcement in the South during the
lim Crow era. The work has involved:

- Students investigating 1,000 lynchings in the South in the Jim Crow era
- Successfully settling a landmark federal lawsuit involving the murder of two 19-year-olds in Franklin County, Mississippi
- Helping communities face the past through restorative justice measures throughout the South, such as apologies from public officials, commemorative events, street re-namings and placing markers at murder scenes
- National media attention, including PBS "Frontline's"
 Un(re)solved, a multiplatform experience examining
 a federal effort to grapple with America's legacy of
 racist killings

Criminal Justice Task Force



The highly regarded **Criminal Justice Task Force**, founded by Professor
Deborah Ramirez, addresses policies
and practices in the criminal justice
system that disenfranchise the most
vulnerable members of society.
Recent results include:

- Advocating at the Massachusetts Legislature to create the Ralph Gants Reentry Services Program, which contributes \$2 million to the Court's Community Justice Support Centers to provide reentry services to every person coming out of prison or jail
- Creating the Gants Memorial Scholarship Fund to provide diverse law students at Northeastern and across Massachusetts with stipends for unpaid judicial co-ops or internships
- Supporting the Chief Justice Access to Justice Fund to engage judges in restorative justice practices
- Confronting Racial Injustice, a panel series co-hosted by the Massachusetts Historical Society



Announcing the Unprecedented Burnham-Nobles Digital Archive

This fall, we are launching the Burnham-Nobles Digital Archive, an unprecedented, publicly accessible digital collection of documentary evidence covering 1,000 racial killings from 1930 to 1954 in the Jim Crow South investigated and brought to light by Northeastern Law students in the Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Clinic.



CLEAR Welcomes Managing Director

Deborah Jackson (JD, PhD), former mayor of Lithonia, Georgia, has joined CLEAR as managing director. She brings extensive experience as a lawyer, civil rights advocate and elected official to CLEAR's team.

National Conference

By Hands Now Known: The Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Archive Conference This national conference celebrates the launch of the Burnham-Nobles Digital Archive and Professor Margaret Burnham's book, *By Hands Now Known: Jim Crow's Legal Executioners*.

CLEAR Appoints 2022-2023 Faculty Fellows

To think differently and act boldly, CLEAR has selected an impressive cohort of faculty to address aspects of racialized housing and equitable community development as well as criminal justice and immigration justice.



Rebecca Chapman
Social Justice Teaching Fellow, Legal
Skills in Social Context Program,
School of Law Project – Jails: The Black
Box of Mass Incarceration



Melvin J. Kelley IV
Associate Professor, Law and Business,
School of Law and D'Amore McKim School of
Business Project – No Further Fair Housing:
Stuck in Transition on the Path to Transformation



Ana M. Rivera
Associate Clinical Professor and Director,
Housing Rights Clinic, School of Law
Project – Housing Discrimination in the
COVID Era



Rachel Rosenbloom
Professor, School of Law
Project – Citizenship for Some: White Nationalism
and the Long Roots of the Movement to Restrict
Constitutional Birthright Citizenship



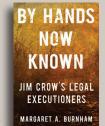
Lily Song
Assistant Professor, Race and Social Justice in
the Built Environment, College of Arts, Media and
Design Project – The ARTery: Re-imagining and
Re-formulating Spatial Planning and Development
with Local Communities in Roxbury



Evan Darryl Walton
Associate Clinical Professor and Director,
Community Business Clinic
Project – Hidden Barriers to Small Business
Growth and Their Disproportionate Effect on
BIPOC and Female Entrepreneurs

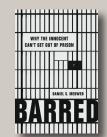
New Civil Rights Books By Our Faculty

Professor Margaret Burnham's book,
By Hands Now Known: Jim Crow's Legal
Executioners (W.W. Norton & Company,
2022), is a searing study of the chronic,
unpredictable violence that loomed over
everyday Black life in the Jim Crow South.
Drawing upon the Burnham-Nobles Digital
Archive, Professor Burnham illuminates the
role that white terror played in controlling



Black life, resistance efforts mounted by Black communities in the face of indifference and hostility from federal and local governments, and the legacy of Jim Crow in the modern-day judicial system. The result is an essential reckoning with America's history of racial violence.

Professor Daniel Medwed's book, *Barred: Why the Innocent Can't Get Out of Prison* (Basic Books, 2022), is a groundbreaking exposé of how our legal system makes it nearly impossible to overturn wrongful convictions. Professor Medwed argues that our justice system's stringent procedural



rules are largely to blame for the ongoing punishment of the innocent. Offering clear explanations of legal procedures alongside heart-wrenching stories of their devastating impact, *Barred* exposes how the system is stacked against the innocent and makes a powerful call for change.