FOREWORD

It is an honor to introduce Volume 11 Issue 1 of the *Journal of Race, Gender, and Ethnicity*. This volume devotes its discussion to reparations for historical injustices and how the impact of these injustices of the past remain evident in the inequities of the present.

The United States government and governments around the world are struggling with the question of how to address past harms. While some prefer to focus on addressing the inequities of today's world, this is simply not enough. Much of the hardship that adversely affects marginalized groups today are a direct result of past atrocities. While it may be impossible to provide reparations for many who were directly affected by certain injustices, we must consider how people acquire intergenerational responsibilities to provide some level of repair. It may be easier to forget past wrongdoing; but humanity has the ability to acknowledge prior damage that resonates in the present by providing recompense to those who continue to suffer.

Many of the Essays and Notes in this issue were presented during the 2021 JRGE four-part Symposium titled, *Redressing Legacies of Injustice: From Slavery, Empire, and Beyond – Reparations and Restorative Justice*. The first panel of the Symposium set the foundation to create a vision of reparations and identify the actors responsible for repairing collective harms imposed on various groups. The second panel discussed historic state-based harms in the international context and the indispensable impact of restorative justice. The third panel explored the role that governmental actors played in constructing official accounts of the past that attempted to bury the existence of harms, disregard their impact, or diminish their scope. Finally, the fourth panel discussed what the United States would look like should a reparations framework be incorporated into its domestic policy.

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Editor-in-Chief
Michelle E. Mazzola, *Juris Doctor Class of 2023*