

### **Editor's Note**

We are pleased to present the second issue of the eighteenth volume of the UC Davis Journal of Juvenile Law & Policy. In our final issue as editors, we are particularly excited to introduce an issue that features a variety of authors who discuss the issues affecting juvenile law from their perspectives as practitioners, social scientists, and legal scholars. We hope that by providing these different views, this issue inspires you to consider the unique problems that arise when juveniles are involved in both the civil and criminal legal system.

The first article is "When Family Courts Shun Adversarialism" by Glenna Goldis, a Staff Attorney at the Northeast Justice Center in Massachusetts. Ms. Goldis uses case studies from her own practice to present a strong critique of a long trend that resulted in family law's dissociation with adversarialism. Through these case studies, she illuminates how the lack of an adversarial system leads to what she refers to as "freestyle judging," which creates a system made up of inconsistency with regard to guardianship proceedings.

Next, we present "More Than a Time Out: Juvenile Solitary Confinement" by Laura Anne Gallagher, an associate at Meade & Schrag, LLP and a 2014 graduate of UC Davis School of Law. Ms. Gallagher highlights the problem of juvenile solitary confinement in jails and prisons. She focuses on the long-standing health effects that result in juveniles due to this type of punishment. Ms. Gallagher also analyzes alternatives to solitary confinement, discussing a case study from the Yolo County Juvenile Detention Facility, as well as presenting her own approach to the issue.

Finally, we present "There is No Meaningful Opportunity in Meaningless Data: Why it is Unconstitutional to Use Life Expectancy Tables in Post-Graham Sentences" by Adele Cummings and Stacie Nelson

Colling. Dr. Cummings is a Professor of Sociology at Colorado Mesa University and Ms. Nelson Colling is a criminal defense attorney in Denver. The authors provide an insightful critique of reliance on life expectancy tables of the general population when sentencing juveniles to lengthy prison terms. Through an analysis of the life expectancy tables codified by the state of Colorado, the article questions whether using such a generalized estimate on juvenile offenders, whose health will be considerably affected by a long time spent in prison, is constitutional under *Graham v. Florida*.

We are proud to present the variety of issues discussed in these articles, and hope that they inspire a passionate discussion and debate in our readers.

Lastly, we would like to thank our Managing Editors, Sterling Elmore and Rebecca Freed, along with our entire 2013-2014 UC Davis Journal of Juvenile Law & Policy staff for their hard work and dedication to making this issue a success.

Samantha Beatty & Erin Levenick  
Editors in Chief