## **DIGNITY RIGHTS PROJECT**

WIDENER UNIVERSITY DELAWARE LAW SCHOOL Volume 3, Issue 1. Spring 2019 ERIN DALY AND JAMES R MAY

### DIGNITY RIGHTS CASEBOOK

Please send us cases involving the right to human dignity!

We are collecting cases for the Website and for a Dignity Rights casebook.

Please email the case or the link to Simone E Berman-Perlstein at sebermanperlstein@widener.ed u

#### **CELEBRATING 5 YEARS OF PRACTICUMS**

In 2014, the Dignity Rights Project launched a new educational model to encourage students to learn about this emerging area of international and domestic law while having a real impact on the world around them. In that time, more than 50 students have worked with dozens of partners around the world.

We have worked with partners in Albania, Bhutan, Colombia, France, Haiti, Pakistan, United Kingdom, United States, South Africa, as well as with international partners on issues of global importance.

These projects focused on environmental justice, educational justice, and the dignity of vulnerable peoples and communities.

Most of these projects have resulted in white papers (available on the website). Others have resulted in submissions, including to the UN High Commission for Human Rights and to the American Bar Association.

For a full listing of projects and partnerships, please see back page.



THE DIGNITY RIGHTS PROJECT WAS PLEASED TO SUBMIT AN AMICUS BRIEF ON BEHALF OF 80 LAW PROFESSORS SUPPORTING THE PLAINTIFFS IN JULIANA V. U.S. IN THEIR EFFORTS TO HOLD THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABLE FOR POLICIES AND PRACTICES CONTRIBUTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

#### VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS 2018

Virtual Workshops take place twice each year, and bring together scholars and practitioners from all over the world in a 2-hour discussion on topics relating to dignity rights. The VWs in 2018 were each dedicated to particular themes.

June 20, 2018

Dignity and Gender

**Her Honor Judge Bernice Donald**, United States Circuit Court for the Sixth Circuit

**His Honor Rai Muhammad Khan**, Additional District & Sessions Judge, Former Research Officer, Lahore High Court, Pakistan & Senior Instructor Punjab Judicial Academy Lahore Pakistan -- *Gender Dignity in Pakistan: A Constitutional Perspective*.

**Irum Ahsan**, Asia Development Bank – *Special Courts for Gender-based Violence* 

**Naysa Ahuja**, Environmental Law Institute, *Climate justice and the implications of the disproportionate burden of climate impacts of poorer and vulnerable communities could be brought into this discussion.* 

**Juan Manuel Rivero Godoy**, University of the Republic, Uruguay, *Gender and Dignity under the New Gender Act* 

Chief Dennis Coker, Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware, and Tomasz Smolinski, Delaware State University and Mitchell Hamline School of Law -- *Indigenous Identity and Dignity in the Context of Pre- and Post-Contact Gender Roles* 

**Maysa Zorob**, Business and Human Rights Resource Center.

**Lisa Chamberlain**, Center for Applied Legal Studies.

**Aisa Hammadeen**, Lawyer, Jordan -- *Gender Equality* in West Asia

November 30, 2018

In celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

**Part One: Cross-Cutting Themes** 

**Isabella Bunn**, Regents' Park College, University of Oxford, UK

The Quest for a Social and International Order: Article 28 of the UDHR as a Foundation for Human Dignity

**Elaine Webster**, University of Strathclyde, Scotland Reconceptualizing the Relationship between Human Dignity and Intrinsic Worth

**Simone Berman-Perlstein**, Delaware Law School '20 Corporate Accountability for Dignity Violations under Regional Human Rights Conventions

**Part Two: Regional Spotlights** 

**Rose-Gaëlle Desiral**, Université de la Fondation Aristide, Haiti

The Fight for Recognition and Respect of the Right to Dignity of the Haitian People

**Rai Mohammad Khan**, Lahore High Court, Pakistan The UDHR's Imprint on the Successive Constitutions of Pakistan

**Tasneem Kausar**, Pakistan College of Law, Pakistan Dignity Rights and the Criminal Justice System in Pakistan

**Sara Evans**, Delaware Law School, Class of 2019 Dignity Beyond Constitutions in the United States

**Stephen Kass**, Carter Ledyard & Milburn Dignity – Putting it All Together

#### **DIGNITY SPEAKS**

In 2018 and early 2019, we gave lectures, made presentations, and spoke in classes in the U.S. and around the world on participatory dignity rights, environmental dignity rights, dignity and international human rights, transitional justice, and environmental constitutionalism and environmental rule of law, and more in France, South Africa, Lebanon, Scotland, Haiti, and Brazil, as well as in the U.S.



## DIGNITY RIGHTS IN PAKISTAN

The Dignity Rights Project was delighted to be able to participate in the first symposium organized by the new Dignity Chapter at Pakistan College of Law.

Speakers were invited to discuss "Crimes of Dignity" in a variety of contexts – from gender, to environment, to sentencing.

Professors May and Daly provided a keynote address by video.



Pakistan Center of Legal Research and Publication
A Project of the Pakistan College of Law
Supported by Arizona State University - USA
In Cooperation with Pakistan College of Law's Dignity Chapter
(Delaware University Dignity Rights Project - USA

### 'CRIMES AGAINST DIGNITY'

#### Presentations including:

- The Indivisibility of Human Dignity and Environmental Rights (Dignity Rights Project Presentation)
- Unheard Voices and Unseen Faces Pakistan's Failure to Protect the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities
- o A Critical Analysis of Pakistan's Approach to Child Protection Law and Policy
- Human Dignity and the Rights of Women in Pakistan: The Problem of Virginity Testing
- o Right to Dignity and Right to Adequate Legal Representation: Failure of the State of Pakistan
- O Alternative Dispute Resolution and Protection of Human Dignity
- O Protection of Dignity Rights of Juvenile Offenders in Pakistan
- o The Conceptualisation of Human Dignity as a Human Right
- o Dignity: A Non-Negotiable Condition of Criminal Justice System



# The Dignity Rights Project welcomes Simone Berman-Perlstein as a Fellow for 2018-2019.

Simone is a 2L at Delaware Law School, and has written about holding private entities accountable for violations of human dignity. She graduated from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia with a bachelor's degree in history. She took graduate classes in Holocaust and Genocide studies at West Chester University, including participating in a study abroad program in eastern Europe. Her interest in law started after she interned with the non-profit Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts, for Modern Courts.

---

#### 5 Years of Practicum Partners and Projects

#### **Dignity Rights**

American Bar Association Center for Human Rights, US Business and Human Rights Resource Center, International PILnet, New York, U.S.

#### **Environmental Justice**

Center for Applied Legal Studies, University of Witswatersrand, South Africa

Chester Environmental Partnership, Chester, U.S.

Coming Clean, Delaware, Delaware Concerned Residents 4 Environmental Justice, Delaware, U.S.

Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti/Bureau des Avocats Internationales, Boston, U.S. and Portau-Prince. Haiti

Pakistan College of Law Dignity Rights Center, Lahore Pakistan

United Nations Environment / UNEP

Universidad del Norte, Baranquilla, Colombia

Université de la Fondation Aristide, Haiti

Educational Justice: Wilmington, Delaware, US

#### **Dignity of Peoples and Communities**

Indigenous people, US and Colombia

Refugees, France & Greece

Children, UN High Commission for Human Rights

Urban migrants, Bhutan

Aging populations, Bhutan

Ethnic minorities, Albania (Institute of Romani Culture in Albania)

Victims of cholera, Haiti

For more information about the Dignity Rights Project and for additional resources including cases, student white papers, and maps and information about dignity rights, visit our <u>website</u>.