



Monthly Newsletter

July 2019

Message from Attorney Parker

America has shown more inclusivity as it has become more diverse. Each year young people of every ethnicity and walk of life register to vote as they become eligible to do so. Our nation has been moving closer to realizing the promise of its founding creed, that all men are created equal. And while this progression has been a slow process, it cannot be stopped.

Since Donald Trump first emerged on the political scene, a sizeable portion of our population has shown itself to harbor deep racial hatred and as many are consumed by racial and ethnic fear. They view America's changing demographic to one more richly hued as a threat to the favored status they have long enjoyed; they fear not only deprivation of the preferences to which they had grown accustomed but subjugation to demeaned status and treatment on a par with what blacks had endured for centuries and whose effects are still being felt to this day.

Our 45th president seeks to grab and hold onto as much power as he can for as long as possible and has decided that his successful re-election relies on incessantly stoking those very fears. His strategy entails cultivating an "us against them" ideology constantly reinforced by words and actions that at best exhibit racial insensitivity and at worst are outright racist. And his supporters strenuously follow his lead in making vile comments and thinly veiled references intended to marginalize anyone who opposes them, and defend him by countering that anything less than an overt racial slur is not racism and that dividing our country into "us against them" will make it great again.

At risk from their success is the long and widely held idea of America as a beacon of freedom where anyone willing to work hard can realize their dreams. If the rhetoric of hate and division continue to mount, the growing loss of confidence in our institutions will give way to anarchy and lawlessness.

We must be relentless in advancing equality without wavering in our values. We must not allow ourselves to be consumed by hate and tribalism. Our salvation lies in our continuing to fight for and maintaining our footing on the path toward creating a more perfect union

Near the end of the film *The Last King of Scotland* Ugandan Dr. Junju tells his Scottish colleague, as the former binds the latter's wounds before enabling him to flee the country and escape the wrath of President Idi Amin: "I am tired of hatred, Doctor Garrigan. This country is drowning in it. We deserve better."

Pride Month: A Look into Supreme Court Cases

June marked an annual celebration of the LGBTQ+ community and the rights established for this historically marginalized community. Seattle celebrated Pride for the 45th year and was one of many cities around the world to engage in such events. [Learn more](#) about the events and Supreme Court rulings that lead to today's freedoms for LGBTQ+ individuals.



2020 Census Citizenship Question

The political environment has been flood with debate of whether a question about citizenship will appear on the 2020 census. President Trump recently signed an executive order ending such debates. [Read more](#) about why this is such a hotly contested issue and the consequences of the question itself.

Facebook Civil Rights Task Force

Facebook established a civil rights task force and an election monitoring center to protect users from voter suppression and intimidation in order to safeguard against interference in the 2020 presidential campaign. [Read more](#) about how this task force is combatting disinformation and developing accountability.



The #MeToo Movement Inspires Gender Equality during the 2019 Women's World Cup

The 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup kicked off with a signed memorandum between the United Nations and FIFA to achieve gender equality. This is the first women's world cup to take place during the #MeToo movement, perhaps a reason why women's national teams are empowered to institute new policies and practices. [Read more](#) about how the #MeToo movement has given women a platform in the soccer world.