

# Letter from the Editor

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I am honored to serve as the managing editor and introduce Volume 6 of *The Measure: A Journal of Undergraduate Research* to amplify the voices of students in College of Humanities and Social Sciences courses at Sam Houston State University. You'll find this volume of *The Measure* is topical and timely, as many of the students featured in our publication have studied, researched, and analyzed current events from the perspectives of the fields of study in CHSS. This volume is published while Sam Houston State University is evolving from the many struggles of the COVID-19 pandemic: students may have come back to in-person classes, but the lingering effects of the pandemic and its disruption of “normal” remain heavy on students’ minds. Our hope is that some semblance of normal activity will return to campus this fall semester.

While editing these articles, *The Measure* staff adopted the tenets of anti-racist scholarly reviewing practices through “Anti-Racist Scholarly Reviewing Practices: A Heuristic for Editors, Reviewers, and Authors.” We worked to follow the principles laid out in this document to ensure that the articles were edited in an inclusive and anti-racist manner. We maintain our commitment to these goals. If you find that we have fallen short, I invite you to share your feedback with me to make certain we continue to uphold these values.

The articles we present to you highlight ongoing historical legacies and their correspondence with current events. Arranged alphabetically, in order of students' last names, these articles offer worthwhile contributions to their fields. Each article is presented in the general style and format of its respective discipline. Karen Garcia analyzes social movements, such as the Black Lives Matter movement, the Blue Lives Matter movement, and the January 6th siege at the Capitol by using sociological theories to examine participants’ motivations. Abigail Gonzalez discusses sumptuary laws in Italy and Germany during the Renaissance period, and how clothing was used by authorities to control social mobility, gender expectations, and womens' virtue.

Asher Gonzalez-Ortiz uses four petitions, submitted during post-Civil War England, to demonstrate the marital, economic, and social chal-

lenges women faced due to the loss of financial support from male figures in their lives. Scott Jones discusses the rise of the Klu Klux Klan in Texas, and its subsequent fall due to the actions of a strong-willed District Attorney, Dan Moody.

Meghan Koza explains the problem with the term “restorative justice” not having a clear definition and how that lack presents issues applying it to criminal justice situations. Sabine Lazo discusses the welfare of wild horses, and how their current overpopulation leads to poor conditions for them, environmental concerns, and a conflict with the interests of nearby humans. Sabine presents solutions to these problems and discusses how the public views their implementation.

Kathleen Simmons analyses the movie *Get Out* and how, through the lenses of two influential theorists, it can be used to examine race as an ideological concept, and how that can be used to incite violence.

I hope that you enjoy the ideas and theories presented in this volume of *The Measure*, and I hope they pique your interest in learning as much as they have piqued mine. We look forward to hearing from you about this volume and its impact on our readers.

Sincerely,



Meagan Edwards  
Managing Editor