

*Special Issue:  
The Year 2014: A Banner Year for Institutional Racism*

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

The *Ralph Bunche Journal of Public Affairs* is dedicating a special issue to the profound and pervasive effects of institutional racism that were prominent in 2014. The year 2014 might be viewed as a remarkable year for institutional racism. The U.S. Supreme Court invalidated Section IV of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Many states enacted voter ID laws. In 2014, scores of minorities in the United States were killed by law enforcement officers and those law enforcement officers who killed them were not punished, calling into question the objectivity and integrity of the police, prosecutors, grand juries, and the broken windows policy. To quell peaceful protests, law enforcement officials utilized tactics that were in violation of human rights and deemed unconstitutional. Several states refused to expand Medicaid as a part of the Affordable Care Act to extend health insurance to the uninsured. A large number of states reduced funding for public education. Numerous school districts adopted policies that led to a disproportionate number of minority students receiving punishment at a greater frequency and with more severity. States and communities moved to curb the ability of immigrants to gain citizenship as well as to enter the country and enjoy the benefits of residing in the United States. The above decisions, practices, procedures, and policies continue the subjugation of minorities and widen inequality between minorities and whites.

The *Journal* hopes to expand the understanding and the meaning of institutional racism with a particular focus on its more contemporary forms. Therefore, this call for papers invites manuscripts that not only address the history of decisions, practices, procedures, and policies that support institutional racism, but also the myriad ways institutional racism manifests itself. The *Journal* also highly encourages submissions that explore the implementation, results, and impact of policies that intentionally or unintentionally place minorities at an economic, social, cultural, and political disadvantage when compared to whites. Additionally, it invites manuscripts that offer prescriptions to reforming the economic, social, and political systems and various ways to eliminating racial inequality.

Please submit your one-page abstract proposal to the *RBJPA* Editor and Co-Editor via e-mail on or before Friday, May 1, 2015. Notification of proposal acceptance will be sent out by Friday, May 22, 2015, and completed manuscripts will be mailed out for peer review by Friday, October 2, 2015. Tentative date of publication for accepted manuscripts is March 2016.

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