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Letter from the Editor: Fall 2021

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Letter from the Editor: Fall 2021

Amanda Pullum, Faculty Advisor

In our previous issue, we presented observations on change. Now, as the virus that has dominated human lives for the past two years continues to change and produce global uncertainty, we at *Culture, Society, and Praxis* take stock of both where our society has come from, and where we are going.

We begin with Kiegan Lloyd's examination of the Nuremburg Trials. Lloyd argues that Nazi leaders who were prosecuted during the Nuremburg Trials committed horrific, genocidal acts, but the Trials themselves sacrificed principles of due process in favor of a rapid determination of guilt. Lloyd finds that even this most despicable crime illustrates the need for a shared commitment to fairness in the pursuit of justice.

Next, Asuzena Flores studies the racist and classist nature of United States drug policies. Flores demonstrates that illegal substances more often used by poor individuals and people of color are penalized more harshly than those used primarily by wealthier and/or white people. In addition, abuse of prescription opiates in white communities is met by policymakers with compassion and a rehabilitative approach, whereas abuse of other opiates primarily in communities of color is more harshly punished.

In our third article, Mollie Brogdon challenges cultural ideas of "hacking" as criminal behavior. Brogdon conducts an ethnographic study of ethical or "white hat" hackers: individuals who identify security flaws in software so that these flaws can be fixed, rather than exploiting such weaknesses for personal gain. Brogdon finds that through formal education and informal professionalization, ethical hackers uphold the profession's integrity and moral code.

Finally, Devon McCauley's article offers a moving reflection on modern parenthood. Presented as a letter to her own children, McCauley's writing examines the impact of changing gender norms and other societal shifts on her experience of motherhood, and offers advice for her children as they consider whether they will have children of their own.

Together, these papers offer a wide-ranging view of crime and justice, despair and hope. As we move into 2022, we encourage readers to reflect on these broad perspectives, and consider the world we wish to shape together.

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