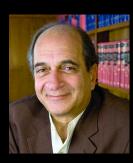
Racial Justice On Trial

What is the verdict after the Summer of 2013?



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Is gay the new black?

Is Trayvon Martin the new Emmett Till?

Is the stop and frisk case our new hope for criminal justice?

Is President Obama the new reason to kill the VRA?

Is Fisher v. Texas the new ending of affirmative action?

Is implicit bias our new "doll study?"

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The Summer of 2013 presented sharply distinct possibilities for civil rights broadly and for racial justice in particular.

Satisfying court victories vindicated marriage equality and the right against racial profiling, but at the same time, the Supreme Court gutted the crown jewel of the civil rights movement—the voting rights act—and placed the future of affirmative action in jeopardy. This came at the heels of a wrenching debate about the Zimmerman verdict, raising profound questions about the colorblindness and neutrality in matters pertaining to race and innocence.

For many, the summer is a sobering reminder of the limits of law, and for others a symbol of its great promise. Are these implications reconcilable? What are the prisms most helpful in understanding the future of civil rights and its implications for scholarship, lawyering, and activism?

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