

Rutgers Center for Law, Inequality and Metropolitan Equity  
(CLiME)

# Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2017

July 2017



**Rutgers CLiME**  
Center on Law, Inequality & Metropolitan Equity



## Highlights

This year was one of decisive forward momentum for CLiME. We advanced our interdisciplinary framework for public scholarship on issues of metropolitan equity through the following programmatic highlights:

- **The Trauma, Schools and Poverty Project (TSP)** seeks to understand the relationships between structural inequality and the pervasive experience of complex psychological stress and trauma. CLiME satisfied the goals set out by the original seed grant, culminating in a national conference held that has been the catalyst for new partnerships across disciplines and increased public awareness. We now move to the advocacy stage of the TSP work in an effort to organize a state legislative strategy for trauma-informed institutional practices.
- **Equitable Growth—Newark** This year CLiME commenced engagement on a University-wide to project to study equitable growth strategies with the City of Newark. Our involvement includes conducting original research and coordinating the working group, comprised of diverse schools and disciplines within Rutgers University-Newark.
- **Fellowship** The Equity + Opportunity Fellowship, now in its third and final year, has provided interdisciplinary sessions to student scholars, infusing their traditional education with a critical understanding of issues of equity. The current Fellow Jennifer McGee-Avila is a doctoral student with concentration in Urban Health at Rutgers School of Nursing Health.
- **Scholarship** CLiME's ongoing commitment to public scholarship was advanced through publications from both seasoned and emerging scholars. We grew our body of original work significantly with 15 new papers, including two legal memos, a comprehensive literature review and a full-length legal analysis by CLiME Director David Troutt.
- **Staffing** The past year saw the hiring of Senior Researcher, Cristina Garmendia, Equity + Opportunity Studies Fellow Jennifer McGee-Avila and Communications Consultant Tara Marlowe.
- **Communications** CLiME has implemented an improved communications strategy, which saw impressive results over the past year through increased reach, frequency and integration across media platforms.

## Trauma, Schools and Poverty Project (TSP)

The recipient of a seed grant from the Rutgers University-Newark Chancellor's Office in 2015, CLiME's Trauma, Schools and Poverty Project (TSP) is a multi-year effort to understand the relationships between structural inequality and the pervasive experience of complex psychological stress and trauma among school children in our Greater Newark community

Psychological research has demonstrated the cumulative destructive effects caused by exposure to complex trauma—traumatic experiences linked to school and community violence, family separation as well as domestic abuse and neglect that are often repetitive, if not continuous—on children and adults, especially those living in low- and very low-income areas.

Additional medical and neurological research links these exposures to cognitive impairment and learning challenges, the “school-to-prison pipeline,” serious psychological and emotional disorders, hypertension, diabetes, substance abuse and shorter life expectancy.

Pursuant to the objectives contained in the original grant application, CLiME has executed the following:

- 1) Conducted law and policy research on current interventions in schools to meet the psychosocial and cognitive needs of children,
- 2) Published scholarship on law and policy on the above issues, particularly with respect to schools,
- 3) Advanced public engagement with multidisciplinary attention to the dilemma of choosing intervention over prevention, culminating with a national conference, *Psychological Trauma and Schools: How Systems Respond to Traumas of Young Lives*.

The conference brought together experts from across the country that shared their perspectives from disciplines, including education law, neurology and criminal justice. In addition to producing this event, CLiME launched the [Trauma, Schools and Poverty Online Portal](https://rutgers-clime.squarespace.com/tsportal),<sup>1</sup> as well as a full [Conference Archive](https://rutgers-clime.squarespace.com/the-trauma-schools-and-poverty-conference),<sup>2</sup> complete with videos and lecture materials. The goal of these efforts is to increase the reach and utility of the groundbreaking information shared at the conference.

In the upcoming year, CLiME will carry forward the TSP Project with a coalition of scholars and practitioners to advance a state legislative agenda on the obligations of public institutions to address and prevent psychological trauma, especially among children. We are looking forward to further developing our partnership with Professor Susan Cole, Director of the Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative at Harvard Law School.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://rutgers-clime.squarespace.com/tsportal>

<sup>2</sup> <https://rutgers-clime.squarespace.com/the-trauma-schools-and-poverty-conference>

## Equitable Growth in Newark

CLiME has taken a leadership role in the RU-N working group from across schools and disciplines in gentrification research and coordination in advancing equitable growth strategies in Newark, NJ, at the request of Mayor Ras J. Baraka to explore the most creative and effective ways to distribute to all Newark neighborhoods the myriad benefits derived from Newark's downtown economic boom.

In addition to coordinating the working group, CLiME will produce a comprehensive regional housing study of Greater Newark, a gentrification index for the city and a complete demographic profile of the Greater Newark. CLiME will also conduct multiple qualitative assessments of the city's institutional capacity and nonprofit infrastructure.

True to its roots in the law school, CLiME is also conducting extensive legal research on land use, housing and local government authority issues that bear upon a city's ability to facilitate economic, social and political growth for **all** residents. *The challenge is to go beyond the neoliberal urban strategies that have repeatedly resulted in displacement of working class populations.*

The initial phase of this work will last eight months, concluding in December of 2017.

## Publications

Public scholarship is a cornerstone of CLiME's mission to promote more equitable approaches to public law and policy. This year we published the following:

### ***Trauma, Schools and Poverty***

[Disparities in Access to Prenatal Care: Perpetuation of Poverty and Inequality](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/article/disparities-access-prenatal-care-perpetuation-poverty-and-inequality) by Iris Cardenas  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/article/disparities-access-prenatal-care-perpetuation-poverty-and-inequality>

[Emotional Disturbance Classification for Children](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/memoranda/emotional-disturbance-classification-children) by Kaitlyn Maltese  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/memoranda/emotional-disturbance-classification-children>

[Preliminary Research on Evidence of Psychological Trauma in the International Realm](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/memoranda/preliminary-research-evidence-psychological-trauma-international-realm)  
by Kaitlyn Maltese  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/memoranda/preliminary-research-evidence-psychological-trauma-international-realm>

[Conference Brief: Psychological Trauma and Schools: How Systems Respond to the Trauma of Young Lives](https://rutgers-clime.squarespace.com/s/MargevichConferenceBriefFINAL-9drg.pdf)  
by Alexandra Margevich, Ph.D.  
<https://rutgers-clime.squarespace.com/s/MargevichConferenceBriefFINAL-9drg.pdf>

[A Critical Review of the Psychological Literature](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/traumalaw/tsp-report-release-critical-review-psychological-literature) by Alexandra Margevich, Ph.D.  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/traumalaw/tsp-report-release-critical-review-psychological-literature>

[Trapped in Tragedies: Childhood Trauma, Spatial Inequality and Law](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/article/trapped-tragedies-childhood-trauma-spatial-inequality-and-law) by David Dante Troutt  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/article/trapped-tragedies-childhood-trauma-spatial-inequality-and-law>

### ***Housing Equity***

[Canary on the Riverbank: Terrell Homes and Newark's Problem with Gentrification](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/terrell-homes-part-i)  
by Kathryn Peterson  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/terrell-homes-part-i>

[Dispatches from Terrell Homes](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/news/dispatches-terrell-homes) by Kathryn Peterson  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/news/dispatches-terrell-homes>

[Fair Housing Under the Mt. Laurel Doctrine is Resurrected in New Jersey](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/fair-housing-under-mt-laurel-doctrine-resurrected-new-jersey) by David Dante Troutt  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/fair-housing-under-mt-laurel-doctrine-resurrected-new-jersey>

[When Cities Fight Banks: Understanding Bank of America V. Miami](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/editorial/when-cities-fight-banks-understanding-bank-america-v-miami) by David Dante Troutt  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/editorial/when-cities-fight-banks-understanding-bank-america-v-miami>

### ***Poverty***

[Child Poverty in Essex County Issues Brief](http://www.endinequality.com/home-1/2017/2/2/issues-brief-child-poverty-in-essex-county), by Cristina Garmendia and Kathryn Peterson  
<http://www.endinequality.com/home-1/2017/2/2/issues-brief-child-poverty-in-essex-county>

[Criminal Customers: The Criminalization of Poverty and they Systemic Exploitation of the Working Class](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/article/criminalization-poverty-court-system) by Michael Simone  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/article/criminalization-poverty-court-system>

### **Editorial**

[Interview: Jeena Shah on Community Lawyering](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/visiting-professor-jeena-shah-community-lawyering) by Tara Marlowe  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/visiting-professor-jeena-shah-community-lawyering>

[The Luxury of Disappointment: What Rick James Knew 30 Years Before the IMF](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/luxury-disappointment) by Tara Marlowe  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/luxury-disappointment>

[Backlash in the Name of Inequality](http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/luxury-disappointment) by David Dante Troutt  
<http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/commentary/blog/luxury-disappointment>

## **Public Scholarship**

### **EO Fellowship**

CLiME collaborated with the GS-N for the third and final year of our Equity and Opportunity Studies Fellowship, welcoming our 2016-2017 Fellow, Jennifer McGee-Avila, an Urban Studies doctoral student with concentration in Urban Health at Rutgers. Her paper, "Housing Policy as HIV Policy: The role of segregation in the Newark, NJ HIV/AIDS Epidemic," will be published by CLiME this fall.

### **Emerging Scholar Student Award**

Emerging scholar and J.D. Candidate Michael Simone won the Student Award in the course "Race, Class and Metropolitan Equity." This paper, about the criminalization of poverty and perversion of justice that occurs the court system becomes a key source of municipal revenue, was published on the CLiME institutional [website](#)<sup>3</sup> and [blog](#)<sup>4</sup> and promoted in our newsletter.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu/publications/article/criminalization-poverty-court-system>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.endinequality.com/home-1/2017/6/13/criminal-customers-the-criminalization-of-poverty-and-the-systemic-exploitation-of-the-working-class>

## Communications

Former Equity + Opportunity Fellow, Tara Marlowe joined CLiME in March as a communications consultant to grow the reach and influence of the work. This year's communications initiatives include the following highlights:

- The launch of TSP Portal and complete Trauma Conference Archive.
- The creation of the CLiME blog, [www.endinequality.com](http://www.endinequality.com) and logo.
- The addition of 811 names to our mailing list, an increase of 13%
- Posting of over 100 articles to our website and social media accounts on the most current findings relating to racial and economic inequality.
- Release of four newsletters out (November 2016, January 2017, April 2017, June 2017) with an average open rate of 14% (approximately 840 readers per newsletter mailing, a 12% increase over last year).
- We have increased the frequency of posts to both Facebook and Twitter and broadened our reach (by 54% and 72%, respectively) over the previous year.
- Developed the visual brand for CLiME that is carried across media platforms to assure consistent messaging for CLiME original works.

## CLiME Communication Platforms:

- Twitter [https://twitter.com/Rutgers\\_Clime](https://twitter.com/Rutgers_Clime)  
FaceBook <https://www.facebook.com/RutgersClime/>  
Blog <http://www.endinequality.com>  
Website <http://www.clime.newark.rutgers.edu>  
Email [clime@rutgers.edu](mailto:clime@rutgers.edu)  
YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXsaqB6r2qVrJMrLSc6u3VDxNiMq20xEL>
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## Blog

The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'endinequality' blog, which is identified as 'a blog by Rutgers CLiME'. The page features a grid of eight article cards, each with a date badge, a title, and a category. The cards are as follows:


- Card 1:** Date: JUN 16. Title: Place, Race, and Equity Legislative Watch: June Edition. Category: (none listed).
- Card 2:** Date: JUN 13. Title: Jeena Shah on Community Lawyering. Category: INTERVIEWS.
- Card 3:** Date: JUN 13. Title: The Criminalization of Poverty and the Systemic Exploitation of the Working Class. Category: ANALYSIS.
- Card 4:** Date: JUN 13. Title: When Cities Fight Banks: Understanding Bank of America v. Miami. Category: FAIR HOUSING, ANALYSIS.
- Card 5:** Date: JUN 13. Title: Trauma Schools and Poverty Archive. Category: TRAUMA SCHOOLS & POVERTY.
- Card 6:** Date: APR 11. Title: Trapped in Tragedies: Childhood Trauma, Spatial Inequality and Law. Category: TRAUMA SCHOOLS & POVERTY.
- Card 7:** Date: APR 11. Title: Disparities in Access to Prenatal Care: Perpetuation of Poverty and Inequality. Category: NEW REPORT.
- Card 8:** Date: MAR 29. Title: CLiME Senior Fellow Advises City of Grand Rapids on Equity. Category: (none listed).

At the bottom of the screenshot, a URL is visible: <http://www.endinequality.com>

<http://www.endinequality.com>




# Institutional Website



Researching Public Law and Public Policy in the Public Interest

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## Recap Of The 2017 Trauma, Schools And Poverty Conference

TARA MARLOWE | CLiME | June 28, 2017

On May 5th, CLiME hosted a national conference on Trauma, Schools and Poverty. A full archive of the conference, including Dr. Margevich's write up and panel contents can be [viewed here](#).

[Read More](#)



## Visit The CLiME Blog

January 30, 2017

CLiME has developed a blog, [www.endinequality.com](http://www.endinequality.com), which features original writing, research and commentary from CLiME affiliates. The blog, along with this institutional site, serve as digital portals for public scholarship on structural inequality, and innovative approaches to tackling inequality, in an effort for us all end-in-equality.

[Read More](#)

<p>FROM THE DIRECTOR</p> <h3>When Cities Fight Banks: Understanding Bank Of America V. Miami</h3> <p>DAVID DANTE TROUTT   June 13, 2017</p> <p>Cities may sue banks for injuries to their tax base caused by unlawful conduct against homeowners, according to the Supreme Court in a May 1st deci</p> <p><a href="#">Read More</a></p>	<p>GUEST ANALYSIS</p> <h3>The Criminalization Of Poverty In The Court System</h3> <p>MICHAEL SIMONE   June 13, 2017</p> <p>Reduced public funding forces municipal courts to focus on revenue generating fines, resulting in the uneven application o</p> <p><a href="#">Read More</a></p>
<p>ISSUES IN EQUITY</p> <h3>Issues Brief: Child Poverty In Essex County, 2000-2015</h3> <p>CRISTINA GARMENDIA   February 06, 2017</p> <p>The number of children living in poverty in Essex County has increased over the past 15 years, with 1 in 3 children now living in poverty. The number of children in highly concentrated poverty has increased, and is spreading from the City of Newark to its inner ring suburbs.</p> <p><a href="#">Read More</a></p>	<p>NOTEWORTHY INITIATIVES</p> <h3>Visiting Professor Jeena Shah On Community Lawyering</h3> <p>TARA MARLOWE   CLiME OPERATIONS   June 13, 2017</p> <p>Jeena Shah is a Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor of Law in Rutgers Law School's Constitutional Rights and International Human Rights Clinics. She recently spoke with CLiME staff member Tara Marlowe to discuss her approach to community lawyering.</p> <p><a href="#">Read More</a></p>

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## Newsletter



### Rutgers Center on Law, Inequality and Metropolitan Equity Newsletter • June 2017

#### ***New Releases From CLiME:***

- CLiME Director David Troutt [interprets](#) what a recent SCOTUS decision means for fair housing in "When Cities Fight Banks: Understanding Bank of America v. Miami."
- CLiME [interviews](#) Rutgers Law School Visiting Professor Jeena Shah regarding her work in community lawyering at the Constitutional Rights and International Human Rights Clinic.
- Senior Research Fellow Cristina Garmendia's new edition of [Legislative Watch](#)

#### **What We're Reading:**

- The Urban Institute [reports](#) that economic and racial integration makes a region more prosperous.
- A [study](#) by the NIH finds that economic and racial segregation are linked to high blood pressure.
- Innovative programs in [Baltimore](#), [Philadelphia](#) and [Washington D.C.](#) fight gentrification and help people stay in their homes.



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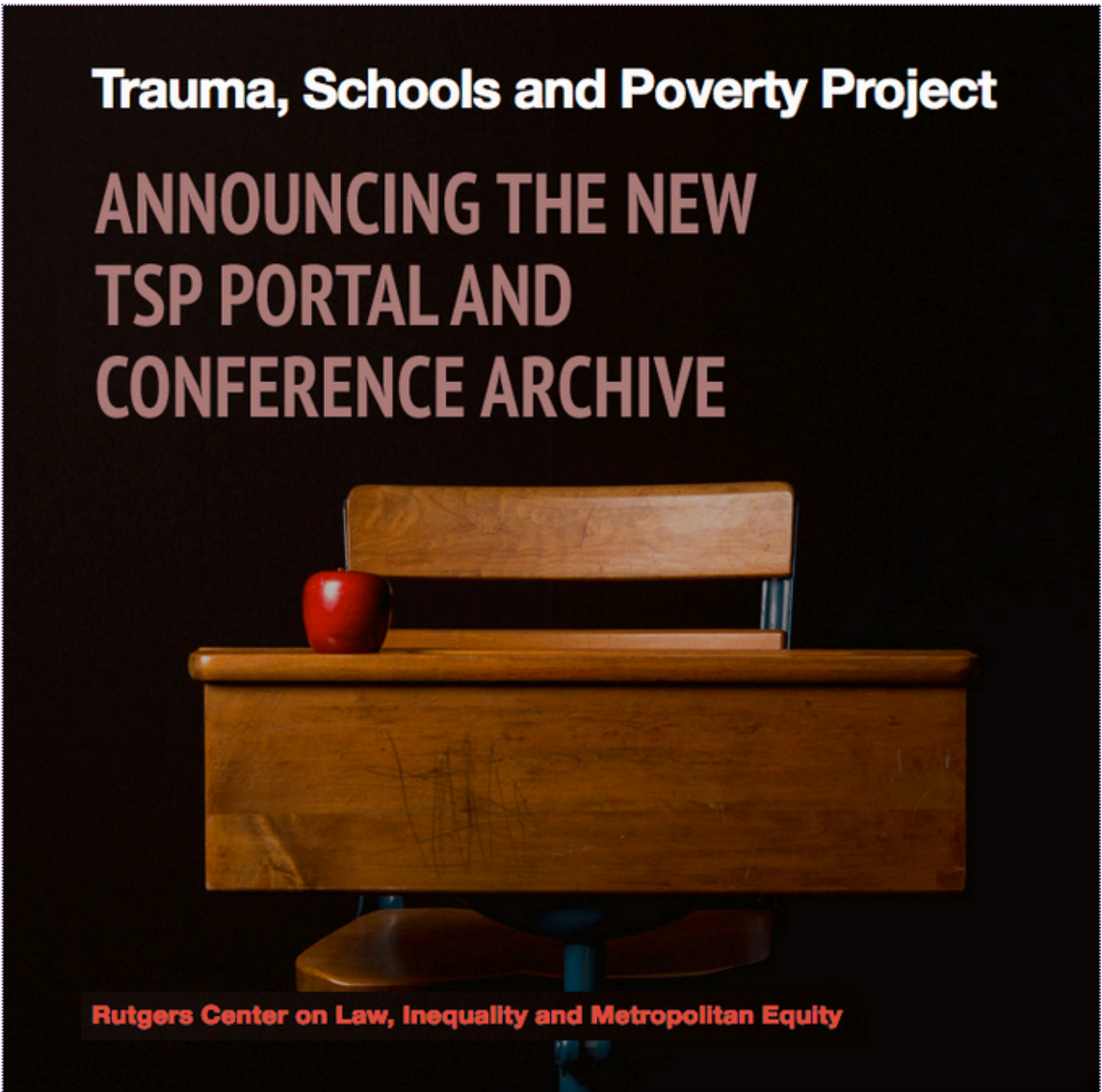


[Website](#)



[Email](#)

<http://mailchi.mp/rutgers.edu/6adqn0lxst>



<https://rutgers-clime.squarespace.com/tsportal>

## Acknowledgements & Staffing

CLiME wishes to acknowledge that the accomplishments in this report would not have been possible without the continued support of the Newark Chancellor's Office and the Graduate School, as well as the hard work and talents of CLiME staff and affiliates. We are deeply grateful to have played a role in advancing this moving and important work.

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*CLiME is grateful for the continued support of the Rutgers University Chancellor's Office.*