Panel 1: How Did We Get Here?

Paul Butler, Georgetown Law
Bernard E. Harcourt, University of Chicago
Nicola Lacey, London School of Economics
Caleb Smith, Yale University
Chair: Carol S. Steiker, Harvard Law School

Panel 2: How Do We Get Out?

David D. Cole, Georgetown Law
Marie Gottschalk, University of Pennsylvania
Linda Ross Meyer, Quinnipiac University School of Law
Bruce Western, Harvard University
Chair: Lawrence D. Bobo, Harvard University

Lawrence D. Bobo is the W. E. B. Du Bois Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University where he holds appointments in the Department of Sociology and the Department of African and African American Studies. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Science, the American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His research has appeared in the American Sociological Review, the American Political Science Review, and the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology. His most recent book, Prejudice in Politics: Group Position, Public Opinion, and the Wisconsin Treaty Rights Dispute (with M. Tuan), was a finalist for the 2007 C. Wright Mills Award. He recently was awarded the Cooley-Mead lifetime achievement award for distinguished scholarship from the Social Psychology Section of the American Sociological Association.

Paul Butler is Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center. He researches and teaches in the areas of criminal law, race relations law, and critical theory. His scholarship has been published in many leading scholarly journals, including the Yale Law Journal, the Harvard Law Review, the Stanford Law Review and the UCLA Law Review. He is the author of the widely reviewed Let's Get Free: A Hip-Hop Theory of Justice, which received the Harry Chapin Media award. Professor Butler is one of the nation's most frequently consulted scholars on issues of race and criminal justice. He served as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice, where his specialty was public corruption. His prosecutions included a U.S. Senator, three FBI agents, and several other law enforcement officials. While at the Department of Justice, he also worked as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, prosecuting drug and gun cases.

David D. Cole is a professor at Georgetown University Law Center, a regular contributor to the New York Review of Books, the legal affairs correspondent for The Nation, and a volunteer attorney for the Center for Constitutional Rights. He is the author of seven books, including No Equal Justice: Race and Class in the American Criminal Justice System, which was named Best Non-Fiction Book of 1999 by the Boston Book Review, and best book on an issue of national policy in 1999 by the American Political Science Association; and Enemy Aliens: Double Standards and Constitutional Freedoms in the War on Terrorism, which received the American Book Award in 2004. Since 9/11, he has been involved in many of the nation’s most important cases involving civil liberties and national security. Professor Cole has received numerous awards for his human rights work, including the ACLU’s inaugural Norman Dorsen Presidential Prize for lifetime commitment to civil liberties in 2013.

Marie Gottschalk is a professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania. She specializes in American politics, with a focus on criminal justice, health policy, and the development of the welfare state. She is the author of, among other works, The Prison

**Linda Ross Meyer** is Professor of Law at Quinnipiac University School of Law, where she teaches criminal law, theories of punishment, and jurisprudence. She is the author of *The Justice of Mercy* (Michigan, 2010), a philosophical defense of punishment as merciful settlement, and of numerous articles and book chapters on jurisprudence, criminal law, procedure, punishment, and suffering. She also currently teaches at York Correctional Institution in Niantic, Connecticut and assists various public policy groups in Connecticut on issues of restorative justice, prison education, juvenile sentencing reform, and recidivism reduction through the support and maintenance of positive social ties.

**Caleb Smith** is Professor of English and American Studies at Yale University and the author of two books about criminal justice and the American social imaginary. In *The Prison and the American Imagination* (Yale, 2009), he explores how the penitentiary came to be understood according to a secular resurrection narrative as a space where the inmate would pass through a ceremonial mortification on the way to a spiritual and legal rebirth. This flexible ideological fantasy, he argues, has allowed the prison to be represented in ways that seem almost irreconcilable, as both an apparatus for the training of disciplined subjects and a warehouse of incapacitation and civil death. In his second book, *The Oracle and the Curse: A Poetics of Justice from the Revolution to the Civil War* (Harvard, 2013), Professor Smith turns from sites of punishment to scenes of judgment, telling the stories of the dissenters, exhorters, and self-styled martyrs who made their claims to justice by calling on a “higher law.”

**Carol S. Steiker** is the Henry J. Friendly Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. She is a scholar of the broad field of criminal justice, where her books and articles have ranged from substantive criminal law to criminal procedure to institutional design, with a special focus on issues related to capital punishment. Recent publications address topics such as the relationship of criminal justice scholarship to law reform, the role of mercy in the institutions of criminal justice, and the likelihood of nationwide abolition of capital punishment. In addition to her scholarly work, she has also litigated on behalf of indigent criminal defendants, including in death penalty cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. She also contributes to numerous law reform efforts as a non-profit board member, consultant, and expert witness before Congress and state legislatures.

**Bruce Western** is Professor of Sociology at Harvard University, and the Daniel and Florence Guggenheim Professor of Criminal Justice Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School. He is also the Director of the Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy and the Faculty Chair of the Program in Criminal Justice Policy and Management at the Harvard Kennedy School. Professor Western’s research broadly studies the relationship between political institutions and social and economic inequality. He has longstanding interests in criminal justice policy, incarceration, and the effects of incarceration on poor communities. He serves as the Vice Chair of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on the Causes and Consequences of High Incarceration Rates in the United States, and he is the principal investigator on the Harvard Executive Session on Community Corrections, sponsored by the National Institute of Justice. He is also the principal investigator of the Boston Reentry Study, a longitudinal study of formerly-incarcerated men and women returning to the Boston area.

The Mahindra Humanities Center would like to extend its gratitude to Shannon G. Mackey.