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# CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

July 9, 2021

## CLBB Highlights



### [Restoring Justice](#)

Harvard Magazine | July-August 2021

Formerly incarcerated speakers explain how they benefited from restorative justice programs during a lecture on restorative justice at Harvard Law School taught by **CLBB Managing Director** and former Federal Judge **Nancy Gertner**.

*Highlight:* "Coleman and his friend, Emmanuel 'Noble' Williams—both former inmates at MCI Norfolk, one of the Commonwealth's oldest and largest prisons—were guest speakers in senior lecturer Nancy Gertner's class on mass incarceration and sentencing law. They'd come to talk about an approach to criminal justice that has gained ground during the past couple of decades as an alternative to the prevailing legal process. Restorative justice focuses not on prosecution and punishment, but on harm done and how to repair it. The men had come to talk about how completely it had changed them."



### [Cutting Edge Issues in Criminal Law Virtual Panel](#)

Boston Bar Association | June 14, 2021

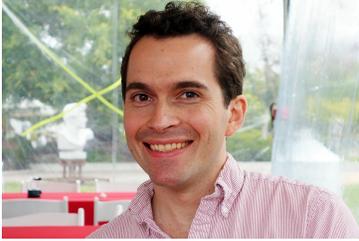
On June 14, 2021, **CLBB Executive Director Robert Kinscherff, PhD, JD** served as the expert science panelist for a "Cutting Edge Issues in Criminal Law" webinar hosted by the Boston Bar Association. The program discussed emerging adult issues, electronic surveillance and high crime area factor in search and seizure analysis. Dr. Kinscherff opened the event with a foundational overview of emerging adult issues and the relevant underlying neuroscience. For more details on this event [see here](#).

## Faculty and Board Member News

### [Punishment is Organized around Principles of Communicative Inference](#)

Science Direct | March 2021

Punishment is commonly understood as an incentive to influence behavior. In this recent study, **CLBB Faculty Member Dr. Fiery Cushman**



and colleagues empirically explore and proffer an alternate theory of punishment as a communicative signal to be interpreted.

*Highlight:* "Punishment is structured not only to modify the behavior of social partners by its incentive value, but also to be understood and interpreted as a form of communication. Identifying the levers of what makes punishments effective will lead to better insight into the structure and function of punishment, as well as illuminate how punishment can be leveraged to facilitate the learning of social and moral norms in humans."

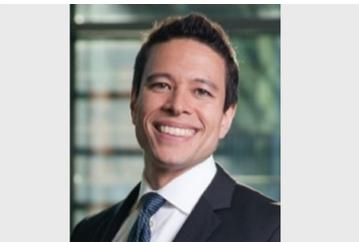


### [Altered Brain Network Connectivity Underlies Persistent Post-Traumatic Headache following Mild Traumatic Brain Injury in Youth](#)

Journal of Neurotrauma | May 26, 2021

In this hypothesis-generating research, **CLBB Faculty Member David Borsook** and colleagues investigate the extent to which pain symptom reporting and functional brain changes are different in a cohort of young mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) patients with resolved and persistent post-traumatic headache (PTH) symptoms in comparison to healthy controls.

*Highlight:* "Our results indicate that a core network of brain regions implicated in the affective pain response are functionally altered in PTH cohorts. ... Despite the resolution of symptoms, persons who experience PTH may experience ongoing functional brain abnormalities, which may underlie symptom chronification."



### [Teaching Law and Artificial Intelligence](#)

University of Minnesota of Law School | June 2, 2021

**CLBB Faculty Member** Dr. Francis Shen, JD, PhD emphasizes the growing need for law schools to offer more courses on law and artificial intelligence (AI) as AI is increasingly impacting virtually every industry.

*Highlight:* "The mounting real-world implications of artificial intelligence — in such sectors as patent law, torts, criminal law, human rights and health care — make it essential for law students to engage with AI and the law, said Shen. His leading research into the nexus of brain science and the law drove Shen's interest in artificial intelligence, prompting him to develop and teach a Law & AI seminar." For more information on Dr. Shen's Law & AI seminar [see here](#).



### [The Economics of Race and Inequality | The Wealth Gap](#)

Barrons | June 23, 2021

During this virtual panel, **CLBB Advisory Board Member Jennifer Jones Austin** and Chief Economist of The Conference Board Dana Peterson discuss important research on the economic implications of racial inequality and offer concrete solutions for closing this racial wealth gap.

*Highlight:* "It's wonderful when we as individuals, as institutions, take up specific initiatives to hopefully improve racial equity but if we don't stay with them over time, then we may just find ourselves falling back to patterns and practices that prop up systemic racism."

## In the News

### General

#### [Meet the scientists building a prison-to-STEM pipeline](#)

PBS | April 19, 2021

[Politically polarized brains share an intolerance of uncertainty](#)

News from Brown University | May 13, 2021

[NFL agrees to drop race bias in concussion claims](#)

BBC | June 3, 2021

[Growing mini brains: How Researchers are taking science to the next level](#)

Spectrum | June 7, 2021

[My Subconscious Made Me Do It: Legal Issues of Brain-To-Computer Interface](#)

American Council on Science and Health | June 7, 2021

['I May Be Incarcerated, But My Voice Still Matters.': Resident At D.C. Jail Wins Local Election](#) |

National Public Radio | June 17, 2021

[He Lost Nearly Everything To Addiction. Then An Arrest Changed His Life](#)

National Public Radio | June 19, 2021

[Biden White House Will Endorse A Bill Closing Cocaine Sentencing Guidelines](#)

Huffington Post | June 19, 2021

## *Juvenile Justice*

[Apply Brain Science to Plea Bargains For Developmentally Informed Approach](#) | Juvenile Justice Information

Exchange | April 5, 2021

[Kip Kinkel is Ready to Speak](#)

Huffington Post | June 2021

[A Role for Philanthropy in Juvenile Justice Reform](#)

Philanthropy Roundtable | June 4, 2021

[Youth Justice Needs Specialized Training of Judges, Lawyers, Court Employees, and Courtroom Language that Doesn't Demean](#)

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange | June 7, 2021

[State reaches deal to improve education, mental services for incarcerated youths](#)

The CT Mirror | June 22, 2021

[I Write About the Law. But Could I Really Help Free a Prisoner?](#)

New York Times | June 30, 2021

## *Elder Justice*

[My elderly mother-in-law has progressive dementia. My sister-in-law charged her \\$70K in rent. Is this ethical?](#)

Market Watch | June 1, 2021

[The Violent Arrest Of A Woman With Dementia Highlights The Lack Of Police Training](#)

National Public Radio | June 15 2021

[NYS: \\$2.5 million expansion of first-in-the-nation initiative to prevent elder abuse](#)

Niagara Frontier | June 18<sup>th</sup> 2021

[Effort to get cameras in nursing homes closer to becoming Ohio law](#)

Ohio 10TV | June 21, 2021

## *Trauma and Immigration Justice*

[Migrants Learn to Confront Lingering Mental Health Issues](#)

US News | June 2, 2021

[Justice Dept. Ends a Trump Policy That Limited Asylum for Survivors of Gang Violence and Domestic Abuse](#)

New York Times | June 16, 2021

[Rising Border Encounters in 2021: An Overview and Analysis](#)

American Immigration Council | June 24, 2021

[Indigenous asylum seekers struggle for interpreters in US](#)

Al Jazeera | July 3, 2021

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