



**“THE TIMES THEY ARE-A-CHANGING”:
THE DIVERSITY AND
SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM
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The launching of a new journal is a time of excitement and trepidation, especially in the context of an already overcrowded field of traditional law reviews at a time when traditional legal education is facing an uncertain future.

The DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM of the Dale E. Fowler School of Law at Chapman University is a non-traditional publication, reflecting the diversity of Chapman Law School and Orange County, California. Instead of articles analyzing legal theory, the DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM focuses on practice-oriented approaches and dialogue regarding issues of social justice.

We are in Orange County, California, the nation’s sixth most populous county. Orange County, prior to such TV shows as *The O.C.*, *Laguna Beach*, *Arrested Development*, and the *Real Housewives of Orange County*, had a national reputation as a bastion of conservatism. Indeed, the saying was that one entered The “Orange Curtain” in crossing the Los Angeles County line into Orange County. Orange County was the conservative center of Republican politics both in California and the nation in the decades after World War II. It was the lynchpin for Senator Barry Goldwater’s 1964 Presidential Campaign. The County elected S. I. Hayakawa to the United States Senate in 1976. It was critical to the elections of Republican Governors Ronald Reagan, George Deukmejian, Pete Wilson, and Arnold Schwarzenegger, and to fueling Governor Reagan’s road to the White House. Just as Hollywood is a source of political funding for the Democrats, Orange County raises substantial funds for Republican candidates.

However, as Nobel Laureate Bob Dylan wrote, “The Times They Are a-Changing.”

Orange County is no longer the homogeneous White County of even a few decades ago. The passionate students in the Chapman Diversity and Social Justice Forum represent the diversity of the

new Orange County. They are the new face of Orange County. The Census Bureau estimates the 2015 population of Orange County at 3,169,776. The breakdown is 41.4% white, 34.4% Hispanic, 20.1% Asian, 2.1% African America, 1.1% American Indian and Alaskan Native, and 0.4% Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander. Moreover, 30.3% are foreign born, and 45.6% speak a multitude of languages other than English at home.

Yes, indeed, “The Times They Are a-Changing.”

At Chapman Law School, dialogue between conservative and progressive views flourished. Professor Kathryn Darmer of Chapman Law School was a leader in the fight against Proposition 8 (2008), the anti-gay marriage referendum that went up to the Supreme Court, *Hollingsworth v. Perry*, 570 U.S. (2013). Chapman University’s then President James Doti normally stayed publicly out of political controversies, but he made an exception with Proposition 8. He spoke out against the Measure and signed an amicus brief against it.

The DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM symbolizes the change in the legal profession and in Orange County. It provides a voice for the vast diversity in the community. The FORUM is non-traditional in representing both analysis and advocacy, often weighing more on the advocacy side. It is open to a frank exchange of views. Additionally, the FORUM is only published on-line. Online publication allows for broad accessibility to a wide range of readers, as well as a publication process that is more efficient and less expensive.

I had the honor two decades ago of being the Faculty Advisor for the launch of the Chapman Law Review, a traditional journal. The students 20 years ago, dedicated to publishing a quality law review, started an annual symposium with distinguished professors as the focus of an annual issue.

In a similar approach, the DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM students sponsored the outstanding “Blinded Justice” Symposium last March. The speakers were a wide range of practitioners from throughout California. The Symposium was supported by Dean Thomas Campbell of the Law School, and Chapman University Chancellor Daniele Struppa. Chancellor Struppa is continuing his support of the Forum in his new position as President of Chapman University.

The Chapman DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM will prove that “Big trees out of little acorns grow” because it is non-traditional media expressing the diverse views of Orange County.

I wish to extend my personal thanks to this year’s FORUM members and their predecessors last year, all of whom performed herculean efforts in establishing the organization, last year’s Symposium, and the inaugural issue of the FORUM. My thanks also extend to my colleagues who have supported their efforts.

Let me add the usual caveat that the articles and views expressed in the FORUM do not necessarily reflect those of Chapman University or myself, but we recognize the need for and support the FORUM.

“The Times They Are a-Changing” in Orange County!