In a political climate marred by divisiveness, racial tension, and socioeconomic strife, citizens are in search of a moral authority to guide them. People have called on the President to act, desperate for a denunciation of those espousing prejudice—calls that have mostly fallen on deaf ears. While those calls have gone unanswered, the energy with which those voices cried out for moral authority helps them grow louder.

In this energy, I see the seed of a new American voice, struggling to be heard over the tantrums of “fake news.” As this new American voice grows among the amber waves of grain, one can hear the echoes of those calling for both the conscience conservative and the pragmatic liberal to take the moral high ground away from those who trounce it.

It is in this new American voice that we at the Diversity & Social Justice Forum Publication, The Forum, strive to provide a thoughtful platform for informing public in the current political climate and beyond. Our goal is to unify as many voices as we can, speaking out against hate and prejudice in order to give them a genuine chance to evolve, advance, and be heard. It is in these difficult times that we must double down as a society to ensure the civil rights so desperately fought for by the generations before us do not disappear.