

The following pages capture a project which does not start nor end on paper.¹ As editors we can attest to the dedication of the writers and artists whose work is depicted here, and their commitment to a project we introduced through The Draft almost a year ago. After many mind-maps, charts, workshops, graphs, reports, conventions and conferences, the editors resolved to designate our second edition as a platform for an interdisciplinary exploration of our relation to human rights in far-from-foreign localities. The work we have presented has been carefully selected and edited to reveal the intricacies of distinct, yet interrelated political spheres.

This publication is the result of horizontal engagement among peers who conceive of journalism, scholarship, and art as mediums capable of blurring the binds of separation-- and help us better understand each other as generation. If ISSUE II is anything worthwhile, it is at least an experiment.

The spheres we analyze here are defined by their interconnectivity: Bard politics, regional and state-specific issues, and national topics, find themselves bound in this single compilation thanks to the multiplicity of opinions and research methods which produced them. Kalen Goodluck's study of the oil boom in North Dakota, Caroline Caulfield's analysis of the history of American repression, Dariel Vasquez' compelling provocation against the self and society, Lexi Parra's photographic moments of the (re)emergence of our generation's activism, and the recent reports of housing and labor issues on campus -- are tied together by their essentials: the values of communities in relation to power and the manifestation of less-than-holistic policies and ideologies.

Our first hope is that you enjoy this work. Our second hope is that it provides new topics and ideas of which we all benefit from reflecting on. We hope to present an opportunity to engage, react, and produce more content; know that we have much more to share.

Your Editors:

Avery Lamb, Bea Abbott, Caroline Caulfield, Acacia Handel, Felicia Doni, and Sagiv Galai

1. See the back page of this issue for the "Agenda", in which this project and your contribution as audience members is explained further.

