



Welcome to the first edition  
of The Impact Report  
Public Interest Experts  
(PIE)'s quarterly newsletter

The Impact Report is a place for PIE to share updates and perspectives from our work, keeping our community informed and engaged. In our first edition, we'll share a bit more background about PIE's approach, and in future editions, we'll go deeper on issues we're prioritizing and the impact of our work.

## - The First Briefing -

### - Public Interest Disputes and Litigation -

On issues from discriminatory lending practices to fair housing, from trans athletes to over-incarceration, PIE ensures that public interest lawyers have access to the experts they need to secure change, and that the analyses are well-structured and high-impact.

In 2025, residents of a manufactured home community sued their landlord for overcharging rent after the landlord stopped providing required amenities. PIE found an expert who can demonstrate the monetary harm that was done to them, so that potential damages will be clear.

### - Public Interest Advocacy -

PIE supports advocacy on issues such as modern-day slavery, disability rights, and reparations, using high-caliber research to replace rhetoric and supposition with reality.

In recent months, as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has [pushed the UK for reparations](#) for the damage done by transatlantic chattel slavery, PIE has been selected to partner with the Division of Culture in the Barbados Prime Minister's Office as it quantifies the monetary value of reparations owed for uncompensated forced labor during the slavery era. This figure will strengthen Barbados' case for reparations and support related policy, legal, and public advocacy efforts.

## - Public Interest Research & Data Projects -

Working with government agencies and academics, PIE helps public interest partners make more thoughtful and strategic decisions about resource allocation and service delivery; conduct cost benefit analyses; and assess harm from potential discriminatory practices. Though these projects tend to be confidential and PIE cannot share them with public audiences, partners consistently tell us that the research is invaluable to their work.

## - Speaking Out for the Public Interest -

PIE is cutting through the noise on critical issues. We follow the research and data to offer clear, straightforward perspectives, prioritizing research over rhetoric. We have shared our perspectives on our [LinkedIn page](#) this year, including:

- On [Birthright Citizenship](#), we discussed how extending citizenship to all people born or naturalized in the United States at the conclusion of the Civil War marked a major step in [fulfilling the country's founding promise](#).
- On [immigration](#), we shared how immigrants contribute to [economic innovation](#), help to [solve labor shortages in vital industries](#), and [strengthen their communities in a variety of ways](#).
- On [LGBTQIA+ rights](#), we discussed how recent attacks [harm young people's mental health](#), hurt [the economy](#), and [subvert our democracy](#).

PIE leaders are also active in the broader public interest legal space, including attending events like the Pro Bono Institute [annual conference](#). This year's theme, "Expanding Pro Bono Beyond Traditional Limits," is exemplified by PIE's work. Experts are a critical part of the equation that is not always considered - or accessible - in pro bono strategies - PIE exists to fix that.

## - PIE in the News -

In December, PIE's own Michelle Cleary was [featured](#) in Northern Valley Living, reflecting on the founding of PIE, the role of public service in her life, and why PIE is so important to her. In her words, "It feels good to bring people together for a cause!"

We are always looking for more opportunities to share our work in the media, at conferences, and at other fora. Looking for an expert on experts? Reach out to [the PIE team!](#)

## - Help Sustain this Work -

PIE has a small but mighty team, ensuring that attorneys and organizations working for the public interest have access to the research and expertise they need to achieve their goals. We are fully donor-funded, relying on the generosity of individuals and institutions who understand the impact these experts can have to make our work possible.

Please consider making a contribution to PIE [here](#). Together, we can supercharge legal and legislative fights for the public interest.

- Coleman Bazelon, Michelle Cleary, and Laura Lubben

