Foreword to the Symposium: The Life and Work of Robert M. Cover

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SYMPOSIUM
THE LIFE AND WORK OF ROBERT M. COVER:
FOREWORD

Samuel J. Levine*

On October 4-5, 2021, Touro Law Center, Touro Law Review, and the Jewish Law Institute hosted a national conference, "The Life and Work of Robert M. Cover." More than thirty-five years after his untimely passing, Cover remains a central and influential figure in the legal academy and beyond. As both a scholar and advocate, Cover exemplified many of the ideals and aspirations of the American legal system, and in the course of his career he developed a number of groundbreaking legal theories. In addition, throughout both his life and his work, Cover distinguished himself in drawing upon a commitment to Jewish law and tradition. Accordingly, building on the

* Professor of Law & Director of the Jewish Law Institute, Touro Law Center; Conference Organizer. I once again thank the faculty, staff, and students at Touro Law Center for their support, encouragement, and participation, and the editors and staff of the Touro Law Review for their work in organizing the conference and this Symposium Issue.


3 See sources cited supra note 2.

success of past Jewish Law Institute programs,\(^5\) the conference explored, amongst and amidst other themes, the relevance of the Jewish legal experience to American law, legal practice, and legal scholarship.

In exploring Cover's legacy, the conference included presentations by leading scholars from across the United States and Israel, incorporating a wide range of disciplines and perspectives. Conference speakers relied upon both their research and their personal reflections to address a broad variety of topics, including: Legal Pluralism and Religion; Law and Justice; Violence and the Law; Limits of Justice; *Nomos*, Jurisgenesis, and Communities; Rights, Obligations, and Justice; Cover and Judaism; *Nomos* and Jurisgenesis in American Law and Society; and *Nomos* and Jurisgenesis in International Law and Society.

Among many other highlights, the conference proceedings featured keynote addresses delivered by the Honorable Guido Calabresi, Senior United States Circuit Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and former Dean of Yale Law School, and by Robert Cover's son, Professor Avidan Y. Cover.


this Symposium Issue will serve as an important resource for future endeavors dedicated to the study and further exploration of Cover's remarkable life and legacy.