

acknowledge its wisdom and merits.

#### Conclusions

STV-PR is the fairest system of voting currently in use. Considering the merits of the system, it is surprising that it is not more widely used. The only countries that make use of STV-PR in national elections are the Republic of Ireland and Malta. In the US, it is used only on a very limited basis, for elections to the City Council of Cambridge, MA, and for the New York School Board elections. This system has broad applications in elections to all branches of government. In particular, STV-PR is a highly appropriate system of voting in areas of strong racial or ethnic cleavage. Under STV-PR, minority groups are represented in the legislature in accordance with their voting strength. Minority groups retain the ability to elect the representative of their choice and remain part of the greater community. The importance of transfers in STV-PR further protects minority groups. Transferred votes have frequently been decisive in PR elections. In Irish general elections, voting pacts between the parties play a major role in determining the eventual outcome. Minor parties and minority interests have been able to shape the political agenda through their transferred votes as well as through direct representation. The slogan of the Civil Rights Movement "separate is never equal" should be revived and applied to a campaign for change in current voting practices. The creation of "safe" minority seats creates the danger of marginalizing minority concerns. The danger inherent in "racial gerrymandering" is that it will lead to a progressive disassociation of the various groups that make up our pluralist society. Our democratic institutions should work to bring us together, not to isolate us from each other. Our system of voting should both protect our diversity and increase our sense of community. Measured against these criteria, STV-PR is the superior voting mechanism for ensuring political equality in democratic societies.

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Michael J. Smith is a Columbia College senior.

# Law School Profile: Georgetown University Law Center

By John Anzalone

*Civil liberties are a great heritage for Americans. They protect us against the excesses of totalitarian government and form a vital part of the freedoms to which we urge other nations to aspire. They guarantee Americans freedom of speech, freedom of religion, security against arbitrary police action, and the right to a fair trial. They are not rights which the government gives to people, rather they are rights which the people carved out for themselves when they created the government.*

--Edward Bennett Williams  
*One Man's Freedom*

This quotation, chiseled in stone on the entrance way to the newly constructed Edward Bennett Williams Library at Georgetown, echoes the sentiment of a world-class law school with its eye on preserving freedom for Americans as well as people around the globe.

While visiting Georgetown University Law Center (GULC), it is clear that the school prepares its graduates to excel in a wide range of legal careers from private practice to teaching. It is an educational institution dedicated to the principle that law is but the means, and justice is the end. With this principle in mind, Georgetown has built an environment that is at once conducive to the exchange of practical ideas and the pursuit of academic excellence. It brings together an extraordinarily varied group of teachers, scholars, and practitioners, as well as a highly qualified student body—last year 9,500 applications were received for 625 first-year seats—representing a broad range of backgrounds and perspectives.

In recent years, the practice of law has become national and international rather than local, and in increasing

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numbers lawyers have also become legislators, policymakers, and scholars. In these times of profound change, GULC seeks to impart not only tools of the trade, but also to foster reflection and inquiry into the nature of law and the role and responsibility of attorneys. From the first day at Georgetown, an orientation toward public service, law reform, and an emphasis on ethical

