

### 303 I Choose Not

As I contemplated Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's courage and forthright testimony during Justice Kavanaugh's Supreme Court confirmation hearing, I recognized the same gender wall that Anita Hill faced during the confirmation of Clarence Thomas thirty years earlier. Hill wrote in *The Atlantic* magazine, "From my own experience in 1991, I knew that from the minute Ford began her testimony, her life would never be the same."

News reports leading up to these hearings show that Brown Jackson, decades later, will be met with the same disdain and skepticism.

The *Berkeley Political Review*, known for its nonpartisan politics, warns that, "Many of [Brown Jackson's] most vehement detractors are now using the same forms of prejudicial questioning as those that have long been spewed to degrade the success, legitimacy and accomplishments of Black women like Anita Hill."

I refuse to remain silent as many of this country's political leaders and Supreme Court justices, become ever more conservative and motivated by religious pandering. I will not suffer the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune." Anita Hill, Christine Blasey Ford, and Ketanji Brown Jackson are all powerful examples of this intrinsically female determination to choose or choose not.