

SECTION INTRO



Someone just called 9 1 1. “What’s the emergency?” a distant voice asks, but there is silence. Can you respond to that question?

Each call is met with an open mic, the ability to speak truths to ears wide open. Whether between strangers or amongst family, such calls reach into the depths of our personal and political lives—into our ways of knowing.

If nothing is done by many, maybe something can be done by one.

For some, hearing statistics might alter

minds. For others, a moving video, a powerful speech, a testimony, or an admission on social media can be just as impactful.

They can reveal something that either was not previously known or was buried under seemingly more important issues.

The call can be in response to something personal or something systemic.

But this only means something if you choose to answer the call—if you choose to listen and take action.

The authors in this section offer honest

accounts of personal and learned experiences, highlighting struggles faced every day that are too often ignored. Ryan Dunn writes about one of the last living survivors of the World War II atomic bombing of Hiroshima, as well as the growing threat of nuclear weapon use between America and North Korea today. Jennifer Jeffery openly and passionately calls out a man who does not wish for women, and especially lesbians, to serve in the military. She reminds us how fierce and capable women are. Amelia Lefevre draws connections between cancer and the environment, urging us to attend to the cost of environmental neglect. Student researchers Abby Boglioli and Andi Voigt

show how Trump's Department of Interior is dismantling environmental protections and how the media is not discussing some key players. This section concludes with "Just Some Respect," in which Lia Figurelli lyrically and honestly describes the collective female experience of unwanted sexual advances, highlighting their frequency and the laws that surround them.

These authors offer us a space to learn and listen—and maybe to respond—to answer the call.

—Antonia Green, Sean Murphy, Nicole Sklitsis, and Brittney West