

Cynthia M. Godsoe
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2013-current **BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL** **Brooklyn, NY**
Assistant Professor of Law

Courses: Family Law, Criminal Law, Legal Profession (professional responsibility), Children and the Law, Children and the Law Practicum, Public Interest Lawyering: Theory and Practice (co-developed as a new course).

Service: Appointments Committee (2013-current); Long Range Planning Committee (2012-13); Curriculum Committee (2012-current); Moot Court Honor Society (2012-current); Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Committee (2007-present); Professional Development Committee (2010-current); Advisor to pro bono student group Suspension Representation Project (2008-current), Clerkship Committee (2007-09, 2011-12).

2007-12 Instructor of Law

Courses: Fundamentals of Law Practice (first year legal research and writing), Fundamentals of Legal Drafting (upper level skills course). Taught orientation class on ethics and the basics of the American legal system.

EDUCATION

1995 - 1998 **HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, J.D., *cum laude*** **Cambridge, MA**

- Honors*
- Hewlett Law and Negotiation Research Fellowship (wrote paper on Alternative Dispute Resolution in Child Welfare)
 - Honorary Irving Kaufman Fellowship for Public Interest.
- Activities*
- *Harvard Women's Law Journal*: Articles Editor.
 - *Board of Student Advisers* (student teacher selected through competitive process).
 - *Battered Women's Advocacy Project*: Court Director & Advocate.
 - *Court Appointed Special Advocate*: Guardian ad Litem for Foster Children.
 - *Children and Family Rights Project*: Board Member.

1997 - 1998 **BOALT HALL SCHOOL OF LAW, U.C. BERKELEY** **Berkeley, CA**
Visiting Student. *Berkeley Women's Law Journal*: Recent Developments Contributor.

1989 - 1993 **HARVARD UNIVERSITY, A.B. in Social Studies, *magna cum laude with distinction*** **Cambridge, MA**

- Honors*
- Thomas T. Hoopes Prize for excellence in undergraduate work (awarded *summa cum laude* on thesis on women in the French Resistance during World War II based on archival research).
 - *Phi Beta Kappa*; Harvard College Scholarship; Agassiz Award for academic achievement; Center for European Studies Research Grant for senior thesis research.

CLERKSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP POSITIONS

1998 - 1999 **U. S. DISTRICT COURT E.D.N.Y., HON. R. EDWARD KORMAN** **Brooklyn, NY**
Judicial Clerk.

1999 - 2001 **SKADDEN FELLOW**

Child Care Law Center, San Francisco, CA. Trained approximately 800 advocates and others on the IDEA and ADA, and TANF child care. Wrote over ten publications on education and disability law. Developed family violence project and represented parents in subsidized child care hearings and welfare impact litigation.

Juvenile Rights Division, Legal Aid Society, Bronx, NY. Represented children in education, abuse/neglect and delinquency (quasi-criminal) proceedings. Trained over a hundred attorneys on special education law. Commented on proposed municipal and federal education regulations.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

Law Review Publications

- *Punishment as Protection*, 52 HOUSTON L. REV. (forthcoming 2015)
- *Contempt, Status and The Criminalization of Non-Conforming Girls*, 35 CARDOZO L. REV. 1091 (2014)
- *Permanency Puzzle*, 2013 MICH. STATE L. REV. 1113 (2013) (invited symposium piece)
- *Parsing Parenthood*, 17 LEWIS & CLARK L. REV. 113 (2013)
- *Just Intervention: Differential Response in Child Protection*, 21 J.L. & POL'Y 73 (2012) (invited symposium piece)
- *Introduction, Adolescents in Society: Their Evolving Legal Status*, 20 J.L. & POL'Y 1 (2012) (invited symposium piece)
- *All in the Family: Towards A New Representational Model for Parents and Children*, 24 GEO. J. LEGAL ETHICS 303 (2011).
- *The Legal Status of Pregnant and Parenting Youth in Foster Care*, 17 U. FLA. J.L. & PUB. POL'Y 1 (2006) (with Eve Stotland).
- *Caught Between Two Systems: How Exceptional Children in Out-of-Home Care Are Denied Equality in Education*, 19 YALE L. & POL'Y REV. 81 (2000).
- *The Ban on Welfare for Felony Drug Offenders: Giving A New Meaning to "Life Sentence,"* 13 BERKELEY WOMEN'S L.J. 257 (1998).
- Book Review, 21 HARV. WOMEN'S L.J. 319 (1998) (reviewing ALAN HYDE, BODIES OF LAW (1997)).

Works in Progress

- *Victims and Offenders* This piece will expand upon the binary of victim and offender which I lay out and critique in *Punishment as Protection*. Specifically, it will examine why the criminal law, both on the books and on the ground, divides parties into this antipodal categories, and argues that the reality of many areas of the criminal law, particularly vice and sex crimes, is much more complex. Effective policies in this area require a breakdown of this binary.
- *Policing Sex*. This will explore police enforcement of prostitution and trafficking laws, and other sex crimes. Since these laws are under-enforced, the discretion and potential selective enforcement that police (and prosecutors) have is even more salient, and potentially problematic, than in other areas of the criminal law.

Opeds & Other Publications

- *Give Restitution to Victims of Child Pornography, But Also Recognize All Child Victims of Sexual Exploitation*, HUFF POST., Jan. 28, 2014.
- *Good Enough to Parent But Not to Marry*, HUFF POST, June 24, 2013.
- *Wedding off, who keeps the ring?*, BROOKLYN EAGLE, Apr. 29, 2013.
- *Debate Continues: Are Parents Accountable for Injuries Caused By Their Children*, BROOKLYN EAGLE, Dec. 19, 2012.
- *Blame Poverty, Not Parents*, NAT'L L. J., May 17, 2012.
- Guest blogger, PRAWFSBLAWG, August 2012, June 2013.
- *Age Matters*, NAT'L L.J., Apr. 4, 2011.
- *Restoring Families*, NAT'L L.J., May 31, 2010.
- *Finally, a Safe Harbor for Exploited Youth*, NAT'L L.J., Nov. 10, 2008.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & HONORS

- Panelist, *Victims and Offenders*, Crimprawfs Conference, Rutgers University (Newark) School of Law (July 2014)
- Panelist, *Adopting the Gay Family* (from call for papers), AALS Mid-Year Meeting on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (June 2014)
- Panelist, *Adopting the Gay Family*, Law and Society Annual Meeting (May 2014)
- Chair and discussant, *Caring for Kin: Issues in Parentage, Guardianship and Custodial Care*, Law and Society Annual Meeting (May 2014)
- Presenter (selected from call for papers), *Adopting the Gay Family*, Fordham Junior Faculty Colloquium (May 2014)
- Presenter, *Adopting the Gay Family*, NYC Family Law Colloquium (April 2014)
- Panelist, Sex and the Law, BLS (April 2014)
- Panelist, Raising the Age of Criminal Liability, NAACP Discussion, New York (November 2013).
- Speaker (selected from a call for papers) *Bias in Administering the Family*, State of the Family 2013 Symposium, University of Richmond School of Law, Richmond, VA (September 2013)
- Practicing Law Institute (PLI), 16th Annual Children's Law Institute, Panelist on The Rights of Adolescents (July 2013)

- 2013 Law and Society Annual Meeting, *Punishment as Protection* (Boston May 2013).
- University of Wisconsin Law School, Making and Teaching Real Family Law Conference, *Administering the Family* (April 2013).
- Michigan State School of Law, Symposium on, In Search of Equality in Family Law, *Permanency Puzzle* (April 2013).
- National Institute for Teaching Ethics & Professionalism (NIFTEP) Fellow (June 2012).
- Co-Chair, Symposium on *Reforming Child Protection Law: A Public Health Approach*, Brooklyn Law School (April 2012).
- Brooklyn Law School, *Criminalization of Sexuality in Youth*, Panelist (April 2012).
- AALS Annual Meeting, *Punishment as Protection* (January 2012) (selected through a call for papers by the Sections on Children and the Law and Media and the Law).
- Michigan State University College of Law, Midwest Family Law Colloquium, *Parsing Parenthood* (June 2011).
- Columbia Law School, 17th Annual Paul Robeson Conference, *Realizing Justice: Incarceration, Advocacy and the Consequences of the Juvenile Justice System*, Panelist (April 2011).
- Brooklyn Law School, Symposium on *Adolescents in Society: Their Evolving Legal Status*, Co-Chair & Moderator of the Juvenile Justice Panel (March 2011).
- Brooklyn Law School, *Treating Mental Disorders in Poor and Vulnerable Children*, Theory-Practice Seminar Participant (October 2010).
- William and Mary School of Law, Family/Children & Law Junior Faculty Workshop, *All in the Family: Towards A New Representational Model for Parents and Children* (July 2010) (one of eight competitively selected participants).
- University of Oregon School of Law, Oregon Child Advocacy Project Conference, *All in the Family: Towards A New Representational Model for Parents and Children* (April 2010).
- New York Law School, Little Adults: Minors, the Law, and Changing Sexual Mores, *Sexting and Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth* (September 2009).
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PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

- 2006 - 2007 **CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER** **New York, NY**
Appellate Attorney. Wrote and argued appeals for children clients on custody/visitation, paternity and domestic violence issues.
- 2004-2006 **ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN OF NEW YORK, INC.** **New York, NY**
Impact Litigation Attorney. Litigated impact cases on education and juvenile justice issues, including two federal class actions of children illegally discharged or excluded from schools. Provided technical assistance and training to attorneys and other advocates on juvenile justice, reentry and special education.
- 2001-2004 **JUVENILE RIGHTS DIVISION, LEGAL AID SOCIETY** **New York, NY**
Staff Attorney, Special Litigation and Law Reform Unit and Brooklyn and Bronx offices. Represented children in federal court impact litigation and legislative advocacy relating to child protection and juvenile justice. Represented children and youth in family court proceedings, including abuse/neglect cases and delinquency (quasi-criminal) proceedings. Trained Legal Aid and other attorneys on education law for CLE credit. Testified before city council on juvenile justice policies.
- 1997 **HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & MCAULIFFE** **San Francisco, CA**
Summer Associate. Researched and wrote memos on topics including banking law and prison conditions. Drafted civil rights pleadings.
- 1996 - 1998 **PUBLIC INTEREST INTERNSHIPS**
 Legal Services for Children (San Francisco, CA); National Center for Youth Law (San Francisco, CA); Legal Services for Prisoners with Children (San Francisco, CA); Boston Child Care Alliance (Boston, MA); Crown Attorney's Office of Ontario (criminal prosecution) (Toronto, Canada); Lawyers for Children (New York City, NY).

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- **Chair**, AALS Section on Children and the Law (2014)
- **Executive Committee Member**, AALS Section on Family and Juvenile Law (2014)
- **Board Member**, EDNY Civil Litigation Fund (2012-current)
- **Board Member**, GEMS (agency for commercially sexually exploited girls and young women) (2011-current)
- **Secretary/Treasurer**, AALS Section on Children and the Law (2012)
- **Court Appointed Next Friend/Guardian ad Litem** for minor plaintiff in class action lawsuit on behalf of foster children in psychiatric facilities, *A.M. v. Mattingly*, CV-10-2181 (E.D.N.Y.) (2010-12)
- **Chair**, Juvenile Justice Committee of the New York City Bar Association (2008-11).
- **Court Appointed Next Friend/Guardian ad Litem** for minor plaintiff in class action lawsuit on behalf of developmentally disabled foster children, *City v. Maul*, Index 400207/04 (N.Y. State Ct.) (2007-current).
- **Board Member**, Brooklyn Autism Center (2007-2011).
- **Member**, Education Committee of the New York City Bar Association (2003-06).
- **Member**, New York and California bars. Admitted to practice before the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.