AALS FAMILY AND JUVENILE LAW
SECTION NEWSLETTER*
Fall 2018

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SECTION LEADERSHIP

Section Officers:
• Chair: Jessica Dixon Weaver, SMU Dedman School of Law, jdweaver@smu.edu
• Chair-Elect, Cynthia Godsoe, Brooklyn Law School, cynthia.godsoe@brooklaw.edu
• Secretary-Treasurer, Kim Hai Pearson, Gonzaga University School of Law, pearsonk@gonzaga.edu

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

AALS Section on Family and Juvenile Law

Chair’s Message - Jessica Dixon Weaver

Normally the chair’s message is a general statement about our section and recognition of the important work our section members are doing. This year is different. The confirmation hearing of Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh barreled through our normal schedules on Thursday, September 27, 2018, upending our minds and lives. Many of us are still upset - furious, saddened, and discouraged by the testimony of Dr. Christine Blasey Ford and Judge Kavanaugh, the subsequent Senate Judiciary Committee response, and the despicable commentary of President Donald Trump. While a bi-partisan compromise offered a glimmer of hope, the results of the FBI Supplemental Investigation leave much to be desired, to say the least. All that remains is the Senate vote and 30 hours of what is sure to be historical speeches about this moment in the United States. Many people in this section have done a great deal to mobilize our expertise and lift our voices to Congress and the greater public. I are grateful for the time, sense of urgency, and organization of the section members who spearheaded letters to Congress, gave interviews to the

* This newsletter is a forum for the exchange of ideas. Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the Section and do not necessarily represent the position of the Association of American Law Schools.
media, wrote Congress members individually, drafted op ed’s, and quickly arranged meetings for us at the AALS Annual Meeting and Law and Society this summer.

For survivors of sexual assault, this past week was particularly difficult. So much has to be unpacked in order to glean ALL that the confirmation hearing means for women, children, and men in this country. Perhaps our collective pain and trauma is exacerbated by the fact that we teach and write in areas that most affect the practical lives of men, women and children. Many students have come forward at our law schools to discuss a host of issues, and this has proven to be a teaching and learning moment for all of us. Some of them had no knowledge of the controversy and testimony of Professor Anita Hill before Justice Clarence Thomas’ confirmation. Questions about sexual harassment and sexual assault abound - one student wanted to know if our school could host a session where law students could learn what attorneys should do if someone reports to them that they have been a victim or perpetrator of sexual assault. Ethical questions about Judge Kavanaugh’s temperament and ability to be impartial are topics being discussed in professional responsibility courses. Special sessions have been held to listen and talk with students about their thoughts, feelings, and analysis of the confirmation hearings. Our collective work on campus and beyond is heartening, and I am more renewed today than I have been since the hearing.

There is one thing that keeps me up at night. For all of our efforts as attorneys and law professors to encourage victims of sexual assault to tell somebody with authority about their abuse, if Judge Kavanaugh is confirmed as a Supreme Court Justice, our words will ring hollow to hundreds of thousands of people across our country. What can we do to ensure that what has happened to Dr. Ford and Professor Hill never happens again? And what do we do with a man who might spend decades on the Supreme Court who appears to be very partisan, untruthful, disrespectful toward and dismissive of women, and likely to keep power in the hands of white men only?

It occurred to me that the public testimony of Professor Hill and Dr. Ford, as well as the tremendous strides that women have made (and are making) could be the basis for a wonderful seminar. The class could include topics regarding the U.S. Supreme Court nomination process, the history of the Supreme Court, the evolution of women and persons of color in the political process, the history of the legal treatment of sexual harassment within Title VII and Title IX, the history of the criminal treatment of sexual assault victims and perpetrators, and the class, gender, ethnic, sexual orientation and racial bias that permeates all of the aforementioned topics. We, along with many of our colleagues, are specially equipped to facilitate and teach such a class. I am reminded of the classes that were created to teach about Ferguson and other watershed moments in America’s history. We have the power to influence change. In an effort to get others and myself out of this sunken place, I want to encourage us all to do our part - whether big or small - to positively shape our future lawyers, judges, legislators, and Supreme Court Justices. Onward and forward, we must move.

To that end, I would like to highlight the AALS Section on Women in Legal Education session for us to meet and dialogue about the confirmation hearings on Saturday, January 5, 2018 from 1:30 - 3:15 pm. It is entitled Building Bridges: WiLE Mentoring, Networking, and Discussion, and the intention is for the group to be as inclusive as possible. The aim is for the session to be cathartic for participants and helpful in thinking through next steps. Naomi Cahn and Susan Bisom-Rapp
will facilitate the session, and there is a need for small group discussion leaders. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Cynthia Fountaine at cfountaine@law.siu.edu.

Please be on the lookout for an announcement of the location of our section lunch, which is scheduled right after our session panel and section meeting on Saturday, January 5, 2018 (around 12:30 pm). Because it is unlikely that a large group will be able to order, eat, and pay in one hour (between the section session and the WiLE session), I will explore options for a pre-fixed meal for the number of members who RSVP by a set deadline. I hope to see many of you soon in New Orleans! Until then, as my grandmother would say, keep the faith.

Jessica Dixon Weaver

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR-ELECT**

Dear members,

I am looking forward to seeing many of you this January at the 2019 AALS Annual Meeting in New Orleans!

We have a great slate of panels that our Section is sponsoring and co-sponsoring, which I have listed below. Our two main section panels—**Thursday Jan. 3 3.30-5, and Saturday Jan. 5 10.30-12.15**—are designated by ***, while panels we are co-sponsoring and other events of interest are also listed. On **Saturday Jan. 5 at 12.15 following the Section panel**, we will be holding a brief Section business meeting to elect next year’s Executive Committee, as well as a Section lunch at a nearby restaurant TBD. We hope you can join us for all of these events!

Best,

Cynthia Godsoe
Brooklyn Law School

**2019 AALS Annual Meeting Section Events**

**Thursday, January 3, 2019**

*Bridging the Gap: Perspectives on Poverty and its Impact on Childhood*

1.30-3.15 pm, Canal Room, Third Floor (Hilton)
Joint Session of the Sections on Children and the Law and Poverty Law

Poverty is a persistent, pernicious social problem in the United States. The population that is most affected by poverty because of political/legal anomie is children. In an effort to better understand the complex and interconnected aspects of children and poverty, the Sections on Poverty Law and Children and the Law will jointly host a session at the 2019 AALS Annual Conference exploring how children’s lives are impacted by, among other poverty-related risks, instability of housing,
child welfare and foster care, compromised physical and mental health, inability to access quality education, juvenile justice, and environmental justice. Professor Luis Zayas, Dean of the Steve Hicks School of Social Work and the Robert Lee Sutherland Chair in Mental Health and Social Policy at the University of Texas – Austin, will help frame the discussion by talking about the children of immigrants, poverty, and stress. Professor Sacha Coupet (Loyola-Chicago) will moderate, and Professors Jenny Carroll (Alabama), Yael Cannon (Georgetown), and Shanti Trivedi (University of Baltimore) will share their unique and cutting-edge scholarship and experiences in one or more of these areas related to children and poverty.

**Alternative Approaches to Teaching Family Law**

**3.30-5.15 pm, Camp, Third Floor (Hilton)**
AALS Section on Family and Juvenile Law Teaching Panel

Teaching a basic or advanced family law course can be challenging each year with new changes in the law and increasing expectations for students to be “practice ready.” There is also more student demand for feedback and assessment throughout a semester. This panel presents alternative pedagogical approaches to family law, including simulations, integration of technology, addressing ethical concerns, incorporation of state law, and developing learning outcomes. Presentations will include a variety of interactive methods of teaching from small group exercises, role-plays, drafting exercises, incorporation of supplemental reading to address cultural competency, daily quizzes, and other teaching methods that have been useful for better student comprehension and mastery of the subject.

**Speakers:**

- Kaiponanea Matsumura, Arizona State University Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law: *Prompting Student Engagement in Large Classes: Daily Exercises and Hypotheticals*
- Jessica Dixon Weaver, SMU Dedman School of Law: *Uncovering Race in Family Law*
- Nancy Dowd and Teresa Drake, University of Florida Levin College of Law: *A Dynamic and Effective Way to Teach Domestic Violence*
- Janet Heppard, University of Houston Law Center: *Teaching Family Law by Weaving Together Traditional Family Law topics, Practical Skills, and other Legal Areas Affected by Family Law*
- Andrea Charlow, Drake University Law School: *You Be the Judge: Teaching Practice Skills in a Large Substantive Class*

**Moderator:** Naomi Cahn, George Washington University School of Law

**Documentary Film Selection: The Loving Story**

**6.00-8.00 pm, Jackson, Third Floor (Hilton)**

The film follows the story of Richard and Mildred Loving, an interracial couple who fell in love and married during the Civil Rights era. Exiled from their home in Virginia due to miscegenation laws, the couple enlists the help of two young ACLU lawyers, Bernard S. Cohen and Philip J.
Hirschkop, to argue their case and legitimize their marriage. After having their motions denied due to racist sentiments within the Virginia courts, Cohen and Hirschkop make one final effort – appealing the Lovings’ case to the U.S. Supreme Court. This documentary about the landmark *Loving v. Virginia* case combines a story of unfailing love with the fight for civil rights and demonstrates that, against all odds, love can conquer all.

**Friday January 4, 2019**

*Rape and Sexual Assault in the Era of #MeToo*

**10.30-12.15 am, Canal Room, Third Floor (Hilton)**

Criminal Justice Section Program

In 2015, the American Law Institute (ALI) sought to redefine the Model Penal Code’s definition of rape. To date, ALI’s membership has failed to reach consensus. They are not alone in struggling to define the crime of rape. State and federal actors have struggled with questions of how to define rape and how (or even whether) to construct processes around the crime. This panel considers these efforts in the era of the #metoo movement, which has highlighted the prevalence of workplace sexual harassment, sexual assault, and attitudes that condone and promulgate this behavior. While not all of the behavior #metoo addresses falls within proposed definitions of rape, the larger social norms the movement challenges nonetheless influence how criminal law defines the crime of rape. This panel will consider how #metoo has changed the questions that legislators, police officers, practitioners, and scholars ask when considering the crime of rape.

**Speakers:**
- Bennett Capers, Brooklyn Law School
- Erin Collins, The University of Richmond School of Law
- Cynthia M. Godsoe, Brooklyn Law School
- Aya Gruber, University of Colorado Law School
- Corey Rayburn Yung, University of Kansas School of Law

**Moderator:** Jenny E. Carroll, University of Alabama School of Law

*The Legal Consequences of Living a Long Life: The Differential Impact on Marginalized Communities*

**1.30-3.15 pm, Grand Salon Section 4, First Floor (Hilton)**

Aging and the Law Section Program; Co-Sponsored by Family and Juvenile Law, Minority Groups, Women in Legal Education, and Trusts and Estates Sections

Thanks to advances in health care, people are living longer. Longevity also has legal consequences. People can outlive their family, friends, and finances. Longevity has differing impacts for women, people of color, low-income people, and LGBT individuals. Statistically,
women make less money than men and they live longer than men. People of color are less financially secure than Americans as a whole. In the United States, approximately 80 percent of long-term care for older people is provided by family members, such as spouses, children, and other relatives. This places an undue financial burden on families and on low-income persons. LGBT individuals may face conscious and unconscious discrimination when seeking long-term care and other assistance, and they have had historically formed different kinds of family structures. This panel will explore the intersection of the legal system and longevity, examining systems that are in place or should be in place to help people plan for living longer.

Panelists:

- Donohon Abdugufurova, Emory (Islamic Studies) & Beverly Moran, Vanderbilt Law School: *The Legal Consequences of Living a Long Life: The Differential Impact on Marginalized Communities*
- Anne Alstott, Yale Law School: *Law and the Hundred-Year Life*
- Jessica Dixon Weaver, SMU Dedman School of Law: *Caregiving Costs*
- Matt Green, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law: *Going Back into the Closet: The Issues Facing LGBT Seniors*
- Jalila Jefferson-Bullock, Duquesne University School of Law: *Quelling the Silver Tsunami: Compassionate Release of Elderly Offenders*
- Nancy Shurtz, University of Oregon: *Intersection of Class and Tax: Women and Elder Care*

Moderator: Browne C. Lewis, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law

Saturday January 5, 2019

**Parents’ and Children’s Rights in a Post-Obergefell World**

10.30-12.15 am, Quarterdeck C, Riverside Building (Hilton)

Family and Juvenile Law Section Program; Co-sponsored by the Sections on Children and the Law and Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues.

Recent family law discussions have largely centered on adult intimate relationships, overlooking the significant changes also occurring in the parent-child dyad. This panel will focus on the interplay between parents’ and children’s relational rights, and how these have evolved to reflect demographic realities, new understandings of childhood and adolescent development, and the sea change in marriage jurisprudence. Topics may include definitions of parenthood, including context and number of parents; the balance between parental obligations and rights; the relationship between marriage and cohabitation and parenthood; as well as children’s rights to a voice and influence in their relationships with adults, their own education, and their discipline/freedom from harm.

Speakers:

- Jamie R. Abrams, University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law (from a call for papers)
We will hold a brief business meeting following this program to elect next year’s Executive Committee, and have a Section Lunch at a nearby restaurant TBD.

The Section on Women in Legal Education is holding a special session on [title tbd]
processing our responses to the Blasey Ford/Kavanaugh hearings

1.30-3.15, Location TBD

New Voices in Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law

3.30-5.15, Compass, Riverside Building (Hilton)  
Section on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues

This works-in-progress panel features work on issues in sexual orientation and gender identity law by newer members of the legal academy. The panelists will address topics including the consequences of failure to identity LGBTQ persons in the census, nonbinary gender, and healthcare and LGBTQ youth.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

We are pleased to announce that the twelfth annual Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference [FLSTC] will take place on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 in Washington, D.C. Based on the results of the online survey after the last FLSTC, the conference will return to the 1-day format and begin the morning of May 29, 2019, the day before the 2019 Law & Society Meeting in Washington, D.C. Please save the date!

Howard University School of Law kindly agreed to serve as our conference host. Participants will be responsible for the costs of their own flight, hotel arrangements, and the conference dinner to take place following the conference. Breakfast, lunch, and refreshments will be provided at the conference.
For those of you who are not familiar with the FLST conference, the main purpose of the meeting is to allow family law scholars to receive detailed, constructive feedback on their work in a supportive, collegial environment. In addition, the meeting is a forum to meet others in the field and talk about teaching, service, new developments in the law, and other relevant themes raised by participants. Scholars at all levels of seniority present their work—either in its very initial form (an incubator session) or in its more developed form (a work-in-progress session)—in intimate groups. We have a very strong norm that participants carefully read drafts of the papers in advance of the sessions, and there are no formal presentations. Many of us feel that this has been a very meaningful conference that significantly contributed to our development as scholars and teachers.

To preserve the conference’s intimate and supportive character, we can accommodate only 45 participants, selected on a first-come-first-served basis. Additionally, although we will try to fulfill all requests for an incubator or work-in-progress session, if space is limited, we will give some preference to junior scholars. As always, there is no registration fee.

We will open up the registration and submission in February 2019. You should expect to receive a follow-up e-mail with further information about submissions and registration in early 2019. If you know other scholars who write or teach in family law who would like to be added to our mailing list, or if you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact the planning committee at familylawsatc@gmail.com.

We hope you will be able to join us in Washington D.C.!

Best wishes,

Jordan Blair Woods
Susan Hazeldean
Yvette Lindgren
Charisa Smith
Gregg Strauss

The Feminist Legal Theory Collaborative Research Network

at the Law and Society Association Annual Meeting
May 30 – June 2, 2019 in Washington, D.C., USA

Dear friends and colleagues,

We invite your attendance at the panels organized and sponsored by the Feminist Legal Theory Collaborative Research Network (FLT-CRN) at the Law and Society Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. May 30 – June 2, 2019. The Feminist Legal Theory CRN brings together law and society scholars across a range of fields who share an interest in feminist legal theory. Information about the Law and Society meeting is available at http://www.lawandsociety.org. We feature presentations that explore feminist legal theory across any substantive area.
CALL FOR ARTICLES

Professor Barbara A. Babb, CFCC Director and Editor-in-Chief of the Family Court Review (FCR), invites members of the AALS Section of Family and Juvenile Law to submit articles for publication in FCR, the leading interdisciplinary academic and research journal for family law professionals. FCR is the quarterly journal of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC). Submitted articles are peer-reviewed. For more information, please refer to the AFCC website or contact by email Barbara A. Babb or phone 410-837-5661.

MEMBER NEWS & RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Susan Frelich Appleton (Washington University School of Law):


Barbara A. Babb, Director of the University of Baltimore School of Law
Caring for Families in Court: An Essential Approach to Family Justice by Professor Barbara A. Babb, CFCC’s Director, and Judith D. Moran will be available in December from Routledge. The authors argue that family justice system reform is necessary to enable courts to effectively assist families and children. They envision the family court as a “care center” that utilizes each family’s story as a foundation to fashion a resolution of their unique issues. They demonstrate how incorporating an ethic of care and appreciating the family narrative can make a court more responsive to the needs of families and children. For more information, click on Caring for Families in Court.
Study and Report on the Creation of Unified Family Court Model in Nebraska
Over 100 judges, attorneys, academics, and service providers attended a forum presented by Professor Barbara A. Babb, CFCC’s Director, and Gloria Danziger, CFCC’s Senior Fellow, on a Unified Family Court pilot project in Douglas County, Nebraska. Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Heavican welcomed participants and offered remarks that were supportive of family court reform efforts in the state. The forum is part of CFCC’s initiative to examine Nebraska’s current court system and offer recommendations for moving forward with a Unified Family Court pilot project. For more information, click on Unified Family Court Model.

Family Law Writing Competition
The Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) are sponsoring the tenth annual Family Law Writing Competition. The competition is run in cooperation with the editorial staff of the Family Court Review, AFCC’s academic and research journal. Entries can address any area of family law, though topics that focus on international or interdisciplinary subject are especially encouraged. Entries will be judged on the quality of legal analysis, originality, depth of research, timeliness, creativity, and format. The deadline is February 1, 2019. For more information please contact the Managing Editor at fcr@hofstra.edu.

Family Law Trainings
CFCC, in collaboration with the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC), will convene two trainings for professionals who work with families and children. On December 3-4, Mindy Mitnick, MA, EdM, will present a two-day training program which will describe the fundamentals of parenting coordination, the knowledge base for being an effective parenting coordinator, and ethical guidelines. On December 5-6, Robin Deutsch, PhD, will present a training on complex child custody work for new and experienced evaluators, attorneys, judges, parenting coordinators, and family therapists. For more information, click on Family Law Trainings.

CFCC Receives Grant Funding
CFCC recently received major grants of $117,025 from the Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts and $141,931 from the Maryland Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention to help support its Truancy Court Program (TCP) and to analyze the TCP’s impact on youth who have been or are currently involved with the juvenile justice system.

Uniform Law Commission update: The ULC gave final approval to the Uniform Nonparent Custody and Visitation Act in July 2018, an act that provides a legal framework for adjudicating third-party requests for access to children. Also, the ULC appointed a committee to draft an act on the Economic Rights of Unmarried Cohabitants, a project that will likely take two years. All uniform acts are available at the ULC website, www.uniformlaws.org.

Melissa Breger’s (Albany) law review article, Making the Invisible Visible: Exploring Implicit Bias, Judicial Diversity and the Bench Trial, is forthcoming in the University of Richmond Law Review (2019).
Melissa was reappointed to New York State’s Third Department Office of Attorneys for Children Advisory Committee for a two-year term, effective August 1.

Jessica Dixon Weaver (SMU Dedman School of Law) has a couple of book chapters that are forthcoming, including Intersectionality and Children’s Rights in THE OXFORD HANDBOOK ON CHILDREN’S RIGHTS (forthcoming 2019) and Legislative Solutions to Address Disproportionality and Disparities in RACIAL DISPROPORTIONALITY AND DISPARITIES IN THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM, Alan J. Dettlaff, ed. (forthcoming 2019).

She was invited to present her work-in-progress, #VoteForOurLives - Children and the Right to Vote, as a panelist at the Nelson Mandela Law Conference (October 25-26, 2018) at the University of Western Cape in South Africa.

Nancy Dowd’s (Univ. of Florida) book, REIMAGINING EQUALITY: A NEW DEAL FOR CHILDREN OF COLOR, (NYU Press) came out June 2018. Nancy received a Distinguished Guest Professorship at Aalborg University in Denmark.

Sally F. Goldfarb (Rutgers) has published Violence against Women and Women’s Legal Rights: International and U.S. Perspectives, 38 WOMEN’S RIGHTS LAW REPORTER 340 (2017).


Josh Gupta-Kagan (Univ. South Carolina) was tenured and promoted to associate professor. Prof. Gupta-Kagan has two forthcoming publications: Reevaluating School Searches Following School-to-Prison Pipeline Reforms (forthcoming in the Fordham Law Review) and The Intersection Between Young Adult Sentencing and Mass Incarceration (forthcoming in the Wisconsin Law Review).


Melanie Jacobs (Michigan State) is serving as Senior Associate Dean and Chief of Staff at the law college.
Laura Kessler (Utah) has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholarship for her project “Family Equality in Plural Legal Systems: Achieving Equality Rights in Marriage and Divorce in Israel and the United States.” She will be in Israel for the 2018-2019 academic year at the University of Haifa Law Faculty.


Roberta Rosenthal Kwall (DePaul) has published two op-eds and one book review. See below for linked titles:

"The Blessing of the Brit" in The Jewish Journal" (June, 2018).

"A New Baby's First Shabbat" in Jewish Weekly" (July 2018).


Prof. Kwall will be speaking about "Jewish Marriage: Challenges and Opportunities" at Elon Law School in October. She will also present at the 2018 Midwest Jewish Studies Conference in Chicago.


Prof. MacDowell also recently published Vulnerability, Access to Justice, and the Fragmented State, 23 Mich. J. Race & Law 51 (2018), one of several recent pieces in which she advances new theoretical frameworks for thinking about and enacting access to justice.

Kim Hai Pearson (Gonzaga) will begin serving as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Program Innovation at the law school, starting January 1, 2019.

Her recent publications include: Child Custody Issues in LGBTQ Divorce and Relationship Dissolution, in LGBTQ Divorce and Relationship Dissolution: Scientific and Legal


Dara Purvis (Penn State) received a promotion to Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion.


In Spring 2018, Jonathan served as a Fulbright scholar at University College Cork School of Law in Ireland. He was also appointed to the Board of Editors of the International Journal on Child Maltreatment: Research, Policy, and Practice, a newly-launched peer review journal.