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## **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

**University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, *Practice Professor of Law*** **2012 to present**  
Direct the Interdisciplinary Child Advocacy Clinic where law students and master level social work students represent adolescents and youth in civil matters including dependency, immigration, and education issues. Created a medical-legal partnership with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Philadelphia Nurse-Family Partnership Program. Teach the seminar component of the clinic addressing current issues in child advocacy from a range of disciplines including legal, medical, psychiatry and social work. Supervise externship students on their legal research in child related law.

**The Bronx Defenders, *Managing Attorney, Family Defense Practice*** **2004-20012**  
Created holistic, team-based practice for representation of parents facing abuse and neglect cases in Bronx Family Court. Expanded practice from a small, grant funded project with two staff into the first institutional parent representation provider in Bronx Family Court, serving approximately 1,000 clients per year. Lead more than 30 attorneys, social workers, and parent advocates and supervise on direct services and substantive law. Coordinate concurrent representation of clients with criminal, civil and family law cases. Develop and facilitate special projects for advocates. Manage multi-million dollar city contract and multiple private grants for program services. Assist in the development of practice specific data systems, reports and evaluations. Participate in citywide taskforces and committees aimed at reforming the child welfare and Family Court systems. Meet regularly with stakeholders, including Family Court judges, other parent representation providers and ACS.

**Fordham University School of Law, *Adjunct Professor of Law*** **2008-2010**  
Co-taught "Interdisciplinary Responses to Child Abuse and Neglect," a seminar for Law School and School of Social Work students focusing on the intersection of law and social work in child welfare systems and services. Developed syllabus and taught "Interdisciplinary Externship Seminar" for the past two years focusing on ethics, substantive law and best practice in direct services for law students working in legal services office.

**The Door's Legal Services Center, *Skadden Fellow/Staff Attorney*** **2002-2004**  
Represented young people in foster care who were planning for discharge from the child welfare system. Conducted legal rights trainings for young people in group homes and maternity shelters. Represented teen mothers whose children have been illegally removed from their care. Advocated for reforms in ACS's handling of undocumented youth in foster care, who were seeking Special Immigrant Juvenile Status relief.

**Honorable Reginald Lindsay, U.S. District Court, *Law Clerk*** **2001-2002**  
Wrote memoranda and drafted judicial opinions on motions for summary judgment and motions to dismiss. Drafted jury instructions in federal civil and criminal trials.

**The Bronx Defenders, *Project Planner*** **1997-1998**  
Coordinated outreach to local community and social service providers for new public defender organization in South Bronx. Created and developed the Criminal Justice Internship Program for Bronx high school students, an art exchange program with local Bronx elementary schools, a brochure for clients explaining the criminal court process, an annual community reception, and a database of 200+ New York City social service agencies.

**The Vera Institute of Justice**  
*Associate Planner* **1997**  
Planned the Overlap Project addressing the needs of foster care adolescents involved in the juvenile justice system. Designed and oversaw a research study of the degree of foster children's representation at detention facilities. Conducted focus groups with child welfare caseworkers and young people in foster care. Surveyed group home staff and residents and supervised two law school interns conducting field research. Wrote a proposal for funding to the Criminal Justice Coordinator's Office.

Developed a research design for the Family Court Improvement Study that evaluated the handling of abuse and neglect cases in five New York counties. Wrote an addendum to the *Family Court Improvement Project* report on the voluntary foster care placement system in New York City. Supervised five research interns and made presentations on Vera's youth projects to government and foundation representatives.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### Books

*Social Work Practice and the Law*, co-author with Dr. Lyn K. Slater (Springer Publishing, NY) (2011)

### Articles and Chapters

*Presumed Unfit: The Dual Bind Faced by Pregnant and Parenting Youth in Foster Care*, 71 Am. U. L. Rev. 101 (2022).

Finck, Hopkins, et. Al, *Youth and Families Matter: Reconstructing the System One Youth At a Time from the Expertise of Youth Advocates*, Columbia Journal of Race and Law (forthcoming 2022).

Rothschild, C.B., Chaiyachati, B.H., Finck, K.R., Atwood, M. A., Leuthner, S.R., & Christian, C.W.(2022). [A Venn diagram of vulnerability: The convergence of pediatric palliative care and child maltreatment a narrative review, and a focus on communication.](#) Child Abuse & Neglect, 128, 105605.

*Tear Down Those Walls: The Future of Graduate Education in Child and Family Advocacy*, International Journal of Child Maltreatment Research Policy and Practice (Fall 2020) (second author with Dr. Cindy Christian and others)

Book Review: *Putting Children's Interest First in U.S. Family Law and Policy: With Power Comes Responsibility* by Helen Alvaré, The International Journal of Children's Rights (Vol. 3 2019)

*Medical Legal Partnerships and Child Welfare: An Opportunity for Intervention and Reform*, 28 Widener L. Rev. 23 (2019)

*Applying the Principles of Rebellious Lawyering to Envision Family Defense*, 23 Clinical L. Rev. 83 (2017)

*Extra-Judicial Conferences in Child Welfare Cases: Reassessing their Role and Implications for Policy and Practice*, 68 Juv. & Fam. Cr. J. 49 (2017).

*A Robust Defense: The Critical Components for a Reimagined Family Defense Practice*, 20 CUNY L. Rev. (2016)

*Representing Parents in Neglect, Abuse, Dependency and Termination of Parental Rights Proceedings*, "Negotiating for Services for the Family in Court; Admissions to the Petition" (Chapter contribution)

"Case Assessment and Theory" in *Child Welfare Law and Practice: Representing Children, Parents and State Agencies in Abuse, Neglect and Dependency Cases* (Chapter contribution)

"Child Welfare and Poverty: The American Paradox" Penn Top 10: Social Justice & Policy Issues for the 2016 Presidential Election (co-authored with Debra Schilling Wolfe, MEd., Cindy W. Christian, MD, and Cynthia Connolly, PhD, RN, PAP, FAAN)

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Presenter, "Medical Legal Partnerships and the Family Regulation System" at Yale Law School Conference on Medical Legal Partnerships: Equity, Evaluation and Evolution (March 2023)

Presenter, "Mothers, Nurses & Lawyers: An Innovative Interdisciplinary Partnership to Support Families" Kempe National Child Welfare Conference (October 2022)

Moderator, “The History & Future of The Indian Child Welfare Act: Implications for Tribal Sovereignty and Native Family Preservation” (September 2022) Community Symposium Series sponsored by the Field Center for Children’s Policy, Practice and Research

Plenary Speaker, “Youth-Led Advocacy and Partnerships to Promote Enhanced Legal Representation, Improved Client Outcomes, and Systemic Reform” at the 45<sup>th</sup> National Child Welfare Law Conference sponsored by the National Association of Counsel for Children (September 2022)

Panelist, “Issues in the Family Regulation/Child Welfare System” American University Law Review Symposium on “The Impact of Race on Youth [in]Justice” (February 2022)

Panelist, “Youth and Families Matter”, Columbia Law Review Journal of Race and Law Symposium “Strengthened Bonds: Abolishing the Child Welfare System and Re-envisioning Child Well-Being” (June 2021).

Presenter, “Parenting Youth in the Child Welfare System” Nurse Family Partnership Convening (April 2021).

Moderator, “Enhanced Representation and Child Welfare” Field Center Community Symposium (March 2021).

Presenter, Philadelphia City Council Special Committee on Child Separations (January 2021)

Speaker, “Child Welfare and Family Court” at Practical Applications in Forensic Psychiatry Grand Rounds, University of Pennsylvania (November 2020)

Presenter, “Medical Legal Partnerships for Families from a Child Welfare Lens” at Kempe Conference, A Call to Action to Change Child Welfare (October 2020)

Presenter, “Representing Parenting and Expecting Youth” Juvenile Law Center Older Youth Working Group (September 2020)

Speaker, “Family Law Planning for Immigrant Families” Centro de Apoyo Community Forum on Facebook Live (July 2020)

Presenter, “Resumption of Jurisdiction Process” Juvenile Law Center Older Youth Working Group (June 2020)

Speaker, Student Public Interest Network Graduation Celebration for Public Interest Students (selected by students to make remarks to graduating students along with Prof. Dorothy Roberts and Joanna Visser Adjoian) (May 2020)

Panelist, Child Welfare Panel at the Parenting Youth: Supporting the Transition to Adulthood conference sponsored by Nurse Family Partnership (March 2020)

Speaker, Centro de Apoyo legal clinics in Upper Darby, Conshohocken and West Philadelphia (focused on providing legal information regarding custody law for immigrant families concerned about the threat of separation and deportation) (Fall 2019)

Trainer, Youth Advocacy Project and Youth Sentencing Re-entry Project (Fall 2019)

Plenary Panel, “Current Legal Issues and Rulings in Child Welfare” One Child, Many Hands Multidisciplinary Conference, Philadelphia PA (June 2019)

Panelist, “*Promoting Cross Disciplinary Professional Education and Dismantling Challenges to Interdisciplinary Practice on Behalf of Children and Families*” One Child, Many Hands Multidisciplinary Conference, Philadelphia PA (June 2019)

Trainer, “Child Welfare Practice and Policy” Nurse Family Partnership Program, Philadelphia (June 2019)

Panelist, “Teaching Law Students to Address Race and Privilege as Part of Professional Competence” AALS National Clinical Conference (May 2019)

Panelist, “Holistic Representation: Addressing the Collateral Issues of Dependent Youth” Current Issues for Child Advocates, Pennsylvania Bar Institute Training (April 2019)

Testimony to Philadelphia City Council Committee on Public Health and Human Services, “Role of Interdisciplinary Legal Representation for Parents in Improving Child Welfare Outcomes” (February 2019)

Speaker, “Interviewing Skills 101” TPIC Skills Academy (October 2018)

Panelist, “Client-Clinic Collaborations: How to Incorporate Meaningful Partnerships with Your Clients into Representation, Reform and Response” AALS National Clinical Conference (Chicago, IL) (May 2018)

Speaker, “Medical-Legal Partnerships: A Child Welfare Initiative” *Widener Law Review* Symposium on Children in the Courts (Harrisburg, PA) (March 2018)

Participant, Family Defense Leadership Workshop, University of Michigan Law School and Child Advocacy Clinic (Ann Arbor, MI) (December 2017)

Presenter, “Social Determinants of Health and Medical Legal Partnerships” CHOP Family Services and Social Work Division (November 2016).

Presenter, “Convening on Improving State Outcomes for Special Immigrant Juveniles” HIAS & Ballard Spahr (Sep. 2016).

Speaker and Moderator, “Rethinking Foster Care” University of Michigan Law School (May 2016).

Speaker, “Rebellious Lawyering for Families: Challenging our Notions of Public Defense, Community Engagement and Interdisciplinary Client Centered Practice” *Clinical Law Review* Symposium at AALS National Clinical Conference (May 2016).

Plenary Speaker, “Reimagining Family Defense” *CUNY Law Review* Symposium (April 2016).

Invited Panelist, “Court-Involved Youth in the 21st Century: Empowerment vs. Protection” *Temple Law Review* (Oct. 2015).

Panelist, “It's Not All Bad: Examining the Delivery of Legal Services and the Administration of Justice to Low Income Communities from a Strengths-Based Perspective” Philadelphia Bench Bar Conference (Sep. 2015).

Plenary Panel Moderator, “From Child Welfare to Child Trafficking” One Child Many Hands: A Multidisciplinary Conference on Child Welfare, University of Pennsylvania (June 2015).

## **EDUCATION** Columbia University School of Law, New York, NY, *Juris Doctor* 2001

Honors: Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar (1998-2001)  
Samuel I. Rosenman Academic Prize (May 2001)  
Sidley & Austin Public Interest Fellowship (Summer 2000)  
Human Rights Fellow (Summer 1999)

Activities: Executive Articles Editor, *Columbia Law Review*

## **Columbia College**, New York, NY, *Bachelor of Arts* 1996

Honors: *Cum Laude*, Departmental Honors, Political Science  
Harry S. Truman National Scholar (1995)  
Solomon and Seymour Fisher Civil Liberties Summer Fellowship (1995)