Final Coffee Talk Presentation by Jerome Stermer

For over four decades, Jerry Stermer has worked as an advocate in not-for-profit organizations and in both the executive and legislative branches of state government. He founded Voices for Illinois Children and served as its President for 22 years, until his appointment by Governor Patrick Quinn as Chief of Staff in 2009, and later as Director of the Office of Management and Budget. Voices for Illinois Children is a privately funded statewide child advocacy organization that works to establish policies and innovative programs to improve education, health care, and family economics. Jerry’s leadership helped to educate opinion leaders and policy makers on all issues facing children and families.

In addition to his leadership in the Governor’s office and with Voices for Illinois Children, Jerry served as Assistant to the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services, Executive Director of the Legislative Advisory Committee on Public Aid, and Supervisor of Government Affairs at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago.

March 18 at 4PM in the Coffee Talk Room.

Listening to Killers, a talk and book signing by Dr. James Garbarino

Listening to Killers offers an inside look at twenty years’ worth of murder files from Dr. James Garbarino, a leading expert psychological witness who listens to killers so that he can testify in court. The author offers detailed accounts of how killers travel a path that leads from childhood innocence to lethal violence in adolescence or adulthood. He places the emotional and moral damage of each individual killer within a larger scientific framework of social, psychological, anthropological, and biological research on human development. By linking individual cases to broad social and cultural issues and illustrating the social toxicity and unresolved trauma that drive some people to kill, Dr. Garbarino highlights the humanity we share with killers and the role of understanding and empathy in breaking the cycle of violence.

March 25 at 4PM in Room 1103.

ChildLaw scholar and author discusses Failure to Flourish: How Law Undermines Family Relationships

Visiting scholar Clare Huntington, Professor of Law at Fordham Law School, will discuss her new book, Failure to Flourish: How Law Undermines Family Relationships. The book argues that despite the essential role that families play in society, too often they do not have the resources needed for the task. Huntington posits that the broad system of family law is a significant part of the problem when families fail, but it can also be part of the solution. Engaging on both a practical and theoretical level, Professor Huntington’s book offers concrete reforms to family law that would encourage flourishing families while simultaneously seeking to change the way we think about families and family law.

April 1 at 4PM in Room 1103.
Illinois Kids Count Symposium 2015
Please join us for the Illinois Kids Count 2015 Symposium to hear leading experts discuss child poverty and the adverse effects of poverty on children’s school readiness, academic achievement, physical health, social-emotional development, as well as social and economic outcomes in adulthood. The symposium will be keynoted by economist Jared Bernstein, a senior fellow at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and former chief economist and economic adviser to Vice President Joseph Biden, who will discuss how Illinois can build a stronger economy by investing in kids, families, and communities. Bernstein is an on-air commentator for the cable stations CNBC and MSNBC and he has been published extensively in various venues, including The New York Times, The Washington Post, Financial Times, and Research in Economics and Statistics. The keynote will be followed by a plenary panel of leading statewide experts who will speak on a variety of issues related to child poverty.

March 12 from 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM in Regents Hall.

A Talk by Dr. Elijah Anderson

Dr. Elijah Anderson, the William K. Lanman, Jr. Professor of Sociology at Yale University, has published extensively on the urban environment and is known for his richly detailed, ethnographic accounts of life in disadvantaged communities. His award winning publications include Code of the Street: Decency, Violence, and the Moral Life of the Inner City (1999); Streetwise: Race, Class, and Change in an Urban Community (1990), A Place on the Corner (1978; 2nd ed., 2003) and most recently, The Cosmopolitan Canopy: Race and Civility in Everyday Life. The talk will take place April 7, 2015 from 4:15pm – 6:15pm at the Lake Shore Campus- 4th Floor, 6501 N. Kenmore Ave. This event is free and open to the public. There will be a reception with light refreshments. Contact Dr. Deborah Baskin at dbaskin@luc.edu for more information.

Children’s Legal Rights Journal

Congratulations to the staff of CLRJ! Volume 35 Issue 1 of The Children’s Legal Rights Journal is now available online. Visit www.childrenslegalrightsjournal.com for more information.

Summits & Conferences

Miranda Johnson from the Education Law and Policy Institute of the School of Law and Pam Fenning from the School of Education/School Psychology program jointly led a “conversation series” at the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) convention in Orlando, Florida. The focus of the conversation series was on their collaborative efforts with others at the state level to develop a “model code of conduct” to create more proactive and equitable discipline codes to be adopted by districts. In addition, they led a conversation with participants about challenges to creating more proactive codes intended to prevent unnecessary school exclusion through suspension and expulsion.

On February 9, The Education Law and Policy Institute and the Education Law and Policy Society co-sponsored a brownbag lunch with Maryam Brotine, Associate at the law firm Robbins Schwartz. Maryam practices education law, focusing in the areas of special education and students’ rights. She counsels and represents school districts with respect to IEP meetings, ISBE complaints, OCR complaints, mediation, due process hearings, residency hearings, student discipline, policy decisions, and FOIA requests. Maryam spoke with students about her career path, her day-to-day work, and her advice for law students seeking to pursue a career in this field.

The ChildLaw Center hosted the third annual Juvenile Justice Research and Data Forum on February 20th. This forum provided current research and data to nearly 100 juvenile justice policy makers, practitioners and advocates, and fostered discussion of Illinois’ data and research priorities. Throughout the program, participants were asked to provide feedback on the policy implications of the research and data presented and the ways in which the research could be applied to improve youth, family and community outcomes. A summary of participant feedback will inform research and data priorities for the next year.
Student & Alumni News

Representing students in the ChildLaw Legislation and Policy Clinic, Kasia Szczersbinski, Melina Healey, Ibie Hart and Kandice Harris, attended Governor Rauner’s budget address in the Capitol Wednesday, February 18, 2015.

Julie (Van Grinsven) Baker, JD ‘10 gave birth to her first child, Maura Margaret, on October 19, 2014. Maura weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and is healthy and happy!

Elizabeth Nelson, JD ‘10 celebrated the birth of her second child, Henry William, who was born on New Year’s Eve weighing 9 lbs 2 oz. Congratulations, Elizabeth!

Faculty & Staff Updates

In February, Professor Diane Geraghty traveled to New Mexico to serve as a pro bono consultant on the University of New Mexico’s Kellogg Foundation planning to consider establishment of a new interdisciplinary children’s law program. The advisory board for the project includes the Chief Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court and Mia Kern, a 2010 Loyola graduate and former ChildLaw Fellow. Mia shared with the advisory committee her experience as a student at Loyola and how the knowledge and skills she gained as part of Loyola’s ChildLaw program have been invaluable, including in her current position as an associate at New Mexico’s largest law firm.

Professor Bruce Boyer, Director of the Civitas ChildLaw Clinic, was interviewed yesterday by WBEZ about kids stuck in jail due to Illinois’ broken child welfare system. Read more at www.wbez.org.

SUFEO Chicago

Spread the word! Stand Up For Each Other! Chicago (SUFEO) is a suspension advocacy hotline that offers information and advocacy to parents and K-12 students seeking to challenge suspensions. Trained advocates are available to guide families through the suspension appeal process and facilitate dialogue between families and schools. SUFEO is a law student project that is jointly sponsored by the Loyola ChildLaw Clinic and the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights. If you know a student who has been suspended unreasonably and needs to be back in school or to get a current or past suspension off their record, call 773-8000-EDU or email at sufeochicago@gmail.com

Job Openings and Fellowships

Northwestern University School of Law invites applications for a clinical assistant professor position beginning in the 2015-2016 academic year in the Bluhm Legal Clinic’s Roderick and Solange MacArthur Justice Center. We seek applicants for this faculty position with distinguished academic records; a strong, demonstrated commitment to practicing in the area of civil rights and working on criminal justice policy issues; and one to two years’ experience in a judicial clerkship or other entry level position. Applications must be submitted by May 1, 2015. Please send your curriculum vitae and cover letter to Brianne Williams at: brianne.williams@law.northwestern.edu.

The Justice Fellowship at Loevy & Loevy offers new attorneys committed to civil rights and criminal justice an unparalleled opportunity to work on trial and appellate litigation at the very beginning of their careers. Our fellows will participate in all aspects of our wrongful conviction, civil rights, and whistleblower practices. In doing so, they will be trained by experienced civil rights litigators and gain litigation experience unavailable in entry-level positions elsewhere. Loevy & Loevy will select two Fellows to join the firm during the fall of 2015. To apply, please send a cover letter, resume, law school transcript, references, and a sample of your writing to fellowships@loevy.com. Applications will be accepted from students completing their final year of law school in 2015, from recent graduates, and from current judicial law clerks or fellows. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis, with hiring likely to be completed by May 1, 2015. For more information visit www.loevy.com.
The Loyola Civitas ChildLaw Center is dedicated to promoting justice for children through interdisciplinary teaching, scholarship and service, and through the development of a new legal specialty, pediatric law.

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE

March 12
IL Kids Count Symposium 2015

March 18
Coffee Talk: Jerome Stermer

March 25
Listening to Killers:
Dr. James Garbarino

April 1
Failure to Flourish: How Law Undermines Family Relationships
Clare Huntington

April 7
A Talk by: Dr. Elijah Anderson