

Preparing People to Lead Extraordinary Lives



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY
CHICAGO

Civitas ChildLaw Center

ISOLATION
VIOLENCE
ABUSE
NEGLECT
DIVORCE
TRUANCY
POVERTY
INSTABILITY
DELINQUENCY

*Advocates
for Children*

**CIVITAS
CHILDLAW
CENTER**



**ABOUT THE
CIVITAS CHIDLAW
CENTER**

**ADDRESSING THE
UNIQUE LEGAL NEEDS
OF CHILDREN AND
THEIR FAMILIES**

**QUALITY
JUSTICE
REPRESENTATION**

In 1993, more than three million children in the U.S. were reported victims of child abuse and neglect. Sixty-five children were killed in Chicago, including Joseph Wallace, whose hanging death at the hands of his mentally ill mother underscored the terrifying consequences of a child welfare system in disarray. Pundits and politicians decried what they called a rising tide of juvenile crime, leading to unprecedented numbers of youth being removed from the juvenile justice system for trial and sentencing in adult court. And more than one million American juveniles became children of divorce.

Into this time of crisis for America's most vulnerable children stepped the Civitas ChildLaw Center, founded in 1993 through the vision and generosity of Loyola School of Law alumnus Jeffrey Jacobs. Law schools previously had done little to prepare students to meet the unique interdisciplinary challenges of representing child clients. The center's goal: ensuring that lawyers are trained to provide quality legal representation for children and to advocate for their interests and well-being.

The first law school program to integrate a traditional J.D. curriculum with a specialized course of study in children's law, the center is devoted to teaching, scholarship and service that forges connections among law, social work, medicine, psychiatry, education and other disciplines key to child welfare. ChildLaw Center programs and initiatives, led by nationally renowned faculty members, include several J.D. and graduate-level degree offerings, a clinic that serves children and their families while training tomorrow's lawyers, a fellowship program that attracts our nation's best and brightest students to this emerging area of specialization, a journal and policy institute that model interdisciplinary collaboration and legislative reform, and an institute devoted to the interdisciplinary study of law and education. Graduates of Loyola's ChildLaw Center work in a broad and geographically diverse range of settings, serving the legal needs of children across the country.

In these pages, learn more about the many accomplishments of the Civitas ChildLaw Center's first few years, the important directions we've set for the future and how you can join our growing community with a shared passion for improving the quality of justice for children.

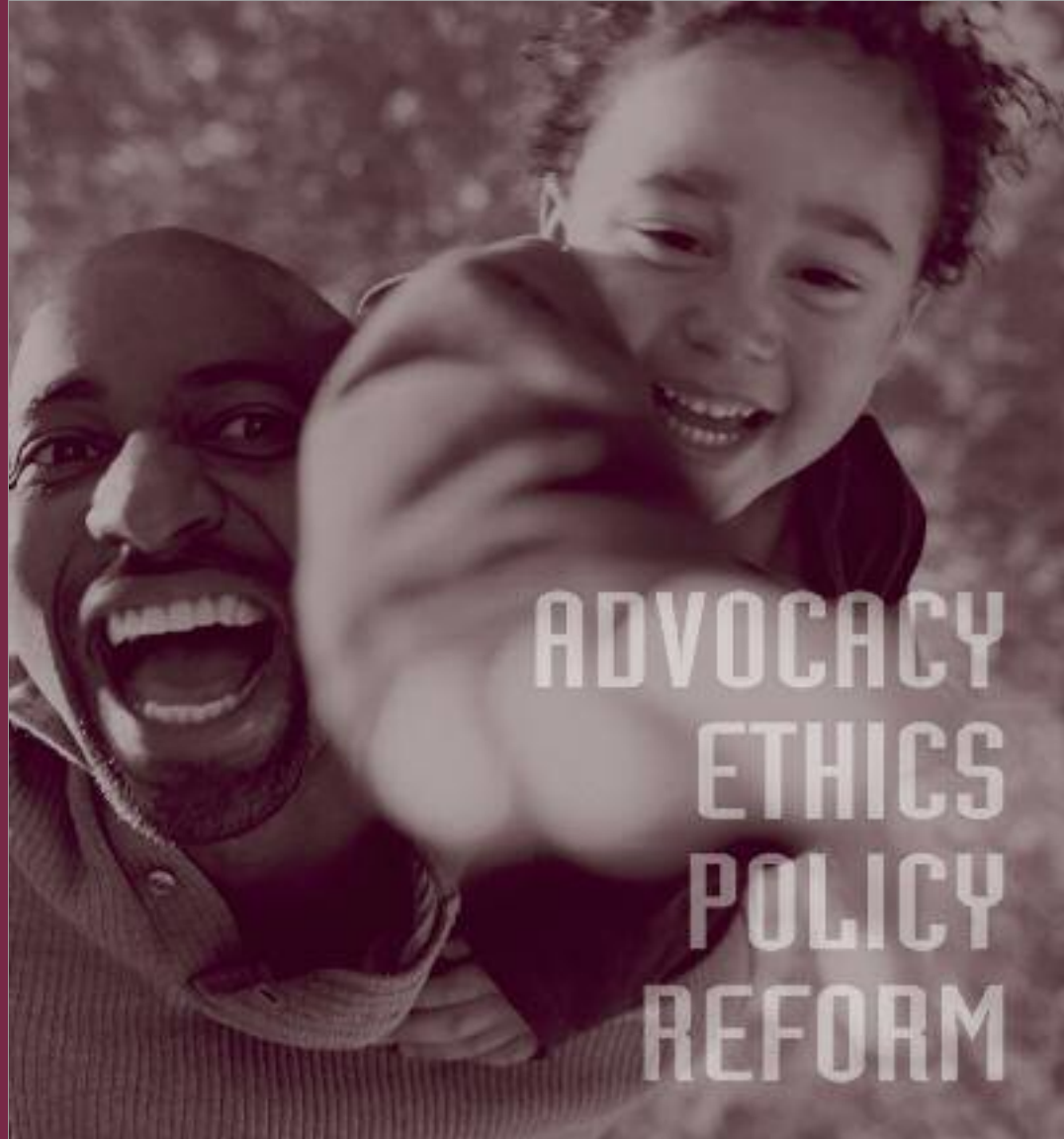
“I spent one semester at the ChildLaw Clinic representing children in abuse and neglect cases, and another representing youth in delinquency cases. After graduation, this work experience helped me to quickly find a job representing children in delinquency matters.”

Stephen Bergman, J.D., Maryland Office of the Public Defender, Baltimore

OUR MISSION PREPARING
LAWYERS AND OTHER
LEADERS TO
BE EFFECTIVE ADVOCATES
FOR CHILDREN

OUR GOAL

- to train law students, attorneys and child welfare professionals to be effective and ethical advocates for children;
- to provide high quality legal representation to child clients;
- to promote children's law as an area of legal specialization; and
- to improve the quality of justice and educational opportunities for children and their families.



ADVOCACY
ETHICS
POLICY
REFORM

PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

STRENGTHENING THE QUALITY OF JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN

The Civitas ChildLaw Center is home to all Loyola's child and family law programs, including its J.D., LL.M. and M.J. degrees; ChildLaw Fellowship program; ChildLaw Clinic; ChildLaw Policy and Education Institutes; and Children's Legal Rights Journal.

Degree programs

J.D. degree with a concentration in child and family law: Law students who successfully complete a core curriculum in children's law may earn a certificate of concentration.

LL.M. degree: A graduate legal program in children's and family law for students who have already earned a law degree.

M.J. degree: A unique degree for nonlegal professionals who work with children, including educators, social service providers, health-care and law enforcement professionals.

J.D./M.S.W. and M.J./M.S.W. degrees: Law and graduate students may receive dual law and social work degrees in an accelerated program.

M.J./Ph.D.: Law and doctoral students in psychology, social work, education and other fields may earn a dual degree.

Curriculum

Loyola's sequenced curriculum in child and family law combines substantive course work, litigation and mediation skill-building, policy opportunities and a focus on ethics. The curriculum is supported by an extensive library collection in children's law and policy.

ChildLaw Clinic

This operating law office serves child clients in a variety of legal proceedings, including abuse and neglect, juvenile justice, domestic relations, domestic violence and educational issues.

ChildLaw Policy Institute

The site of Loyola's legislative, policy, professional training and law reform initiatives, the institute models interdisciplinary collaboration and offers learning opportunities for policy development, analysis and organizational change.

ChildLaw and Education Institute

The institute is designed for students, faculty, judges, practitioners and policy makers who strive to serve the educational needs of children through the law. The institute facilitates collaborative interdisciplinary research, publications, training, conferences and outreach programs dedicated to the development of excellence and equity in the nation's schools.

ChildLaw Fellowship

Each year 7-10 law students are named ChildLaw Fellows in a nationally competitive process and are awarded scholarship and internship support to prepare them for careers in children's law.

Children's Legal Rights Journal

In cooperation with the ABA Center on Children and the Law and the National Association of Counsel for Children, Loyola students edit a quarterly journal for professionals who work with children.

For more information on ChildLaw programs and initiatives, visit our Website at www.luc.edu/childlaw

CENTER HIGHLIGHTS
MAKING MEASURABLE
STRIDES IN ADVANCING
JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN



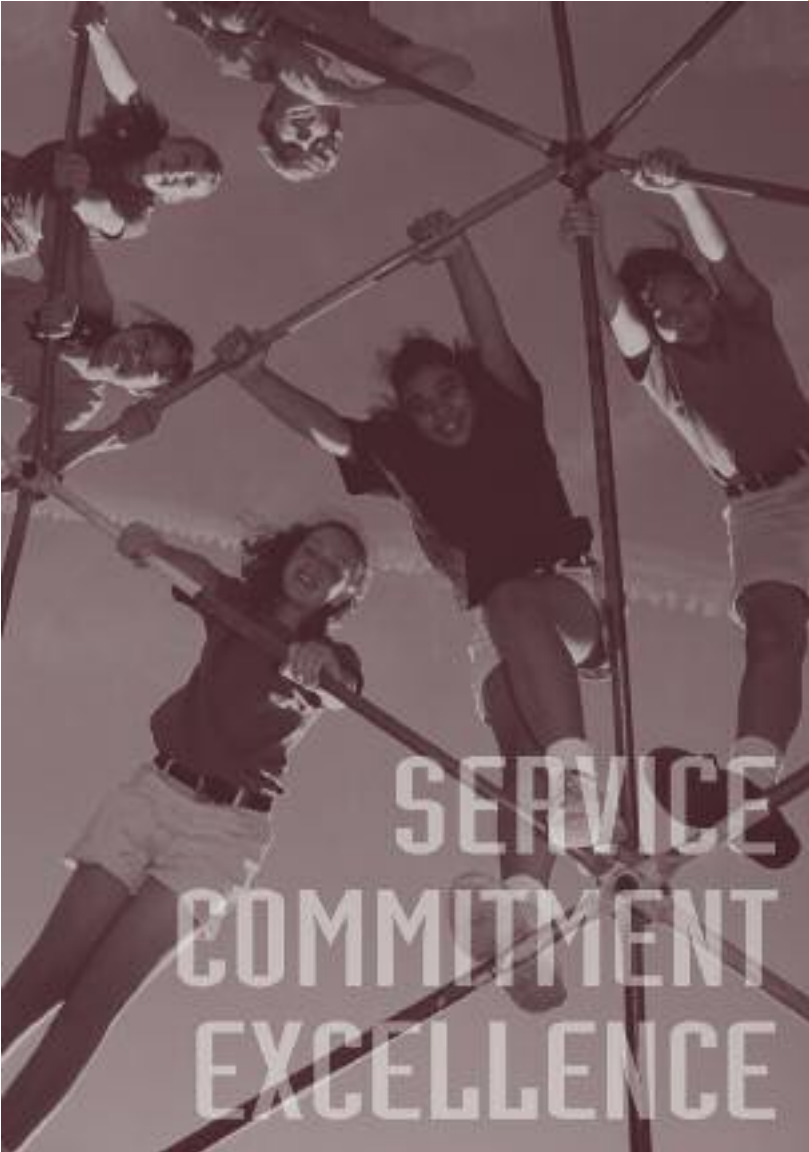
Loyola's Civitas ChildLaw Center continues to receive regional, national and international recognition for its leadership in teaching, research, training and legal reform. The following are highlights of some recent student and faculty accomplishments.

- Hosted major conferences on topics including children and crime, childhood lead paint poisoning, racial equality in schools and ethical issues in legal representation of children. The center also sponsors an annual Children's Summer Institute.
- Received awards and honors including the National Association of Counsel for Children's Outstanding Child Advocacy Award, the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts' Kids Count Award, the National Juvenile Law Moot Court Competition first-place award, the ABA Livingston Hall Award for outstanding contributions to juvenile justice and the Edith Spurlock Sampson Juvenile Justice Pioneer Award for outstanding service to the Cook County Juvenile Court.
- Helped to reform Illinois law, including striking down a provision in the Illinois Adoption Act that had severed the legal relationship between parent and child, and helping to draft legislation on abandoned babies and childhood lead paint poisoning.
- Trained more than 1,000 public and private caseworkers, attorneys and judges on how to advocate more effectively in child protection cases.
- Published articles in important journals including the Washington University Journal of Law and Policy, Public Interest Law Reporter and Adoption Quarterly.
- Promoted international juvenile justice efforts by helping to introduce the legal specialization of children's law into several African countries' law school curricula, and by working to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in East Africa.
- Published the leading textbook on education law, policy and practice.



LEADERSHIP
TRAINING
TEACHING
RESEARCH

“I’m a licensed clinical psychologist and wanted to be an advocate for children from a **legal perspective** as well. The **skills** I learned as a ChildLaw Fellow inform the way I **teach** law students every day.” Michael Jenuwine, J.D., Ph.D., Associate Director, Child Advocacy Clinic, Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington



FACULTY

GATHERING LEADERS IN CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY

Full-time Faculty

Bruce Boyer

Clinical Professor
Director, Civitas ChildLaw Clinic
B.A., Dartmouth
J.D., Northwestern

Sacha Coupet Assistant

Professor Director of
Research, Civitas
ChildLaw Center
A.B., Washington University
M.A., Michigan
Ph.D., Michigan
J.D., Pennsylvania

Diane Geraghty

Professor of Law
Director, Civitas ChildLaw Center
B.A., California
M.A., U. of Chicago
J.D., Northwestern

Michael Kaufman

Professor of Law
Director, ChildLaw and
Education Institute
B.A., Kenyon
M.A., Michigan
J.D., Michigan

Stacey Platt Clinical

Professor Associate
Director, Civitas
ChildLaw Clinic B.A.,
Wisconsin
J.D., New York University

Anita Weinberg

Clinical Professor
Director, ChildLaw Policy Institute
B.A., Michigan
M.S.S.W., Columbia
J.D., Loyola Chicago

Other faculty

The full-time faculty is augmented by several part-time faculty, many of whom have extensive practice experience in fields affecting children and families.

Two post-graduate fellowships, one in juvenile justice and one in policy, round out the program.

**WHAT'S AHEAD—
AND HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED**

**LEADING THE WAY ON EMERGING
ISSUES IN CHILD ADVOCACY**

“The M.J. in ChildLaw degree provided me with a **firm understanding of the legal arena** surrounding children’s rights, and the skills needed to advocate for abused and neglected children. Now, I draft legislation, do legal analysis and conduct forensic interviews at a children’s advocacy center.”

Alicia Vega, B.A., M.J., Chicago Children’s Advocacy Center

The Civitas ChildLaw Center has accomplished much during its first years, but important work remains to be done. The goal for the center’s second decade is to draw on the resources of Loyola—a Jesuit, urban university—and the community to fully realize an interdisciplinary model of children’s advocacy that combines educational excellence; service to children, families and communities; useful scholarship; and meaningful reform. While continuing the commitment to the areas of child abuse and neglect, juvenile justice and domestic relations, the center’s work will expand to include:

Children’s health. Building on the successful work of the center’s ChildLaw Policy Institute to eliminate childhood lead poisoning, and in collaboration with Loyola’s Institute for Health Law, the center will provide curricular and research opportunities for students to explore the intersection between children’s law and health-care policy and practice.

Children’s education. Because no child can hope to succeed in life without meaningful educational opportunities, the center’s ChildLaw and Education Institute will encourage interdisciplinary research and service projects designed to spread the benefits of educational excellence throughout Chicago and the nation.

Research. As part of Loyola’s commitment to research on behalf of children and families, the center will increasingly collaborate with faculty throughout the university to produce high-quality scholarship for use by child welfare specialists and children’s advocates.

Training. The center will expand its role as a training resource for attorneys, judges, policymakers and child welfare professionals.

International children’s rights. The field of children’s law is part of a worldwide movement to recognize and protect the universal rights of all children. Through field research, service, teaching and scholarship, Loyola intends to play a leadership role in ensuring that children everywhere have an opportunity to realize their full potential.

JOIN US

Throughout its existence, Loyola's Civitas ChildLaw Center has benefited from the support and active involvement of those who share our mission. Some ways you can help:

- Share your experience and expertise as a speaker in our weekly Coffee Talk series, classes, symposia and conferences.
- Serve on one of our advisory boards.
- Mentor students informally, through internships or other hands-on learning opportunities, or by co-counseling cases in our ChildLaw Clinic.
- Advise or judge student competitions.
- Write an article for the Children's Legal Rights Journal.
- Consider hiring our students after graduation.
- Offer your financial support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW YOU CAN STRENGTHEN THE CENTER'S IMPACT,
CALL 312-915-6481 OR E-MAIL childlaw-center@luc.edu.





CHILDREN
FAMILIES
COMMUNITY

“Loyola’s ChildLaw program changed my career and my life. I am now a professor, a mediator and an advocate, thanks to my education and experience at Loyola.”

Kelly Browe Olson, J.D., LL.M.,
Associate Professor and
Director of Clinical Programs,
University of Arkansas at Little
Rock School of Law, Little Rock

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