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ELIMINATING UNINTENDED BIAS

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Important Notice: Change of NACC Email Addresses

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The Guardian is Green!
Please see page 31 for more information.
The Mission of the NACC is to:

- Strengthen the Delivery of Legal Services for Children
- Enhance the Quality of Legal Services Affecting Children
- Improve Courts and Agencies Serving Children
- Advance the Rights and Interests of Children

Executive Committee

CHAIR
Robert C. Fellmeth, JD
San Diego, California

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Corte Madera, California

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Charlotte, North Carolina

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Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

The Conference

This conference is the NACC’s premier training, and is the product of 34 years of experience. It is designed primarily for attorneys who practice child welfare, juvenile, and family law. NACC members and attendees dedicate most of their practice to the representation of children and youth, parents, or the state in juvenile dependency, delinquency, or family law cases. Due to the multidisciplinary nature of this work, professionals from the fields of medicine, mental health, social work, probation, law enforcement, and education also belong to the NACC, attend our conferences, and serve as faculty.

The conference comprises Plenary Sessions and Breakout Sessions. Attendees are free to sign up for and attend any one of the five concurrent Breakout Sessions.

Conference Highlights

The NACC is offering two pre-conference sessions:

1. NACC Red Book Training
   A training based on the newly released NACC Red Book, Second Ed. (2010), which covers the major dependency practice competency areas and prepares attendees for the NACC Child Welfare Attorney Certification Exam (see page 5).

   Session will confront myriad misconceptions surrounding the concept of race, discuss race, privilege, policy and justice, expose how ideas about race have been shaped by history, social institutions and cultural beliefs, and discuss how implicit bias can occur within child welfare practice (see page 5).
Conference Sponsors

- Dependency Legal Group of San Diego
- Georgia Association of Counsel for Children
- The Kempe Foundation for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Lea for Justice Inc.
- Megan Louise Furth Youth Empowerment Fund
- Northern California Association of Counsel for Children
- Southwest Airlines
- University of San Diego School of Law, Dean Stephen Ferruolo

Sponsorship & Exhibits: To become a sponsor or exhibitor, complete the form found at: www.naccchildlaw.org/?page=National_Conference

Continuing Education Credits

NACC conferences are typically approved by continuing education agencies in most jurisdictions and disciplines. The NACC received CLE pre-approval in CA only. The pre-approved credit hours are a rough estimate of the number of hours for which you may be eligible in your jurisdiction. Please note that each CLE office computes time differently, and it is in their discretion how many credits to award a program and/or session. Each attendee is individually responsible for applying for and obtaining credit. A Uniform Certificate of Attendance will be emailed to all attendees after the conference for use when applying for individual credit. Contact your CLE office for more information.

The Conference has been Pre-Approved in California as Follows:

- **Pre-Conference Red Book Training:** 6.5 total credits (including 1 legal ethics)
- **Pre-Conference Eliminating Bias:** 6.5 total credits (including 3 legal ethics & 1 elimination of bias in the legal profession)
- **3 Day Conference:** 16.75 total credits (including an optional 2.5 legal ethics & 1.25 elimination of bias in the legal profession)

The conference will conclude with a live theater performance of **Switch**, a production by **Playwrights Project** from **Telling Stories: Giving Voice to Foster Youth**. Founded in 1985, **Playwrights Project** is a nonprofit organization devoted to advancing literacy, creativity and communication by empowering individuals to voice their stories through playwriting programs and theatre production. The **Telling Stories** program is designed to encourage foster youth and their caregivers to voice their experiences through theatre, in an effort to communicate the unique issues facing those involved in the foster care system. The production will be followed by a discussion with a **Playwrights Project** staff member, emancipated foster youth, social worker, and youth advocate (see page 14).

Conference Highlights, Cont.

- **Lunch Session** - Join colleagues and brief drafters for a discussion of U.S. Supreme Court case Greene v. Camreta, which confronts the issue of whether police officers investigating suspected child abuse violate a child’s and/or parents’ Fourth Amendment rights by questioning the child at school without warrant, probable cause, or parental consent (see page 8).
- **The Power of Boundless Compassion** - Presented by **Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ**, Jesuit priest, Founder and Executive Director of Homeboy Industries, and author of **Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion**.
- **The Conference Reception** will feature the following (see page 9):
  - **Steel Drum Band Performance** by students from the Monarch School in San Diego;
  - **Presentation of Awards** to the newly certified Child Welfare Law Specialists and other award recipients;
  - **Silent Auction** to Benefit NACC.
- **Bias in Decision Making** - Presented by **Rita Cameron Wedding, Ph.D.**, Chair of the Department of Women’s Studies and Professor of Ethnic Studies at California State University, Sacramento, CA (see page 10).
- **Offsite-Activity** - Join your colleagues on a fully narrated trolley tour of beautiful San Diego. Highlights include: Old Town San Diego State Historic Park; San Diego Harbor; USS Midway Museum; Seaport Village; Gaslamp Quarter; Coronado; Balboa Park; and Little Italy (see page 12).
The Hotel

Room Rate: $159 Single/Double

Reservations: The NACC has secured a limited room block at the discounted rate. When the room block fills, the discounted rate is not guaranteed — please book your room early!

Note: In order to receive the discounted room rate, you must register for the conference within 5 business days of reserving your hotel room. Hotel reservations without a corresponding conference registration will be cancelled.

Reservations Deadline/Cutoff: The cutoff date to receive discounted hotel reservations is July 27, 2011. In the event the room block fills entirely before the cutoff date, additional rooms are subject to availability and the rate is subject to change.

Special Offer Through Labor Day Weekend: If you are interested in extending your stay at the Hotel through Labor Day weekend, the $159 rate is applicable August 24 through September 6 (check-out Sept. 7), based upon Hotel availability.

Great Concessions! The Hotel is offering complimentary high-speed internet in meeting rooms and sleeping rooms, complimentary self-parking, and is waiving the resort fee.

BOOKING


TRANSPORTATION FROM SAN DIEGO AIRPORT TO HOTEL

A shared taxi is your best option. Approximate fare: $30.

TRANSPORTATION FROM HOTEL TO AIRPORT

NACC Bus: The NACC has hired one 50-passenger coach bus, which will depart the hotel at 1:00pm, 2:00pm and 3:00pm on Thursday, September 1. Separate registration and fee: $30. Because there is only one bus, you must register early to secure the departure time that best suits your flight schedule. Please indicate your first, second, and third choices. After you register, you will receive a confirmation email indicating your bus departure time. If you are departing on a day other than Thursday, the NACC bus is not offered.

Hotel Shuttle: The Del Express Shuttle, operated by the hotel, has only two six-passenger vans. Reservations can be made through the concierge or directly at 888-364-2315. The rate is $32 per party (individual, couple or family).

Taxis: Taxis are limited on Coronado Island (where the hotel is located), making it difficult to handle large-group departures. If you wish to take a taxi, contact the hotel concierge the day prior to your departure to see whether they are able to accommodate you.
Monday, August 29, 2011

8:30am–4:30pm  **NACC Red Book, Second Ed. (2010), Training: Survey and Certification Exam Prep Course in Child Welfare Law and Practice**


» Separate registration and fee: $250 (includes coffee, lunch, and a copy of The Red Book, Second Ed.)

» Pre-Approved for 6.5 total credits (including 1 legal ethics)

8:30am-5:00pm  **Eliminating Bias**


**Highlights of the day include:**

» **Race: The Power of an Illusion**, a provocative film that questions the idea of race as biology and helps viewers confront myriad misconceptions surrounding the concept of race.

» Facilitated conversation about race, privilege, policy and justice, exposing how ideas about race have been shaped by history, social institutions and cultural beliefs.

» Guided discussion of how implicit bias can occur within child welfare practice, how implicit bias can promote “perception of risk,” and how to modify attitudes and behaviors that promote bias.

» **Child Safety: Guide for Judges and Lawyers**, which was developed for use in child welfare and can be implemented within any practice model. The session will cover concepts, vocabulary and analytic framework for safety decision making, and address issues such as:

  › Is it safe for this child to remain in the home, or if in care, to be returned?
  › Have the parents developed sufficient capacity to care for the child without further support?
  › What additional evidence needs to be gathered, presented, and considered?

The process is presented from both a social work and legal perspective. By identifying the specific safety concerns and needed parental change, it helps clarify the services germane to creating the conditions for return and to developing the protective capacities of the family. Benchcards and checklists to assist participants in understanding these concepts and making safety decisions will be included in the discussion.
Separate registration and fee: $175 (includes coffee & lunch)
Pre-Approved for 6.5 total credits (including 3 legal ethics & 1 elimination of bias in the legal profession)

5:00-6:00pm Optional Historical Tour of the Hotel del Coronado
Volunteer docents lead a 60-minute walking tour through this historic hotel. One-hour tours depart Monday at 5:00pm and 6:00pm.
Separate registration and fee: $15 per person. Reservations required; call Katherine at 619-437-8788 and reference the “NACC Tour.” Space is limited.

2:00-5:00pm Registration Open
Monday, August 29, 2011

2:00-5:00pm  Registration Open

Tuesday, August 30, 2011

7:30am  Registration Open
8:00-8:30am  Continental Breakfast
8:30-10:00am  Welcome to the Conference & Keynote

All Alone in the World: A Child’s Eye View of Criminal Justice

Presented by
Nell Bernstein, Coordinator of the San Francisco Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership, and Contributing Editor at New America Media

Nell Bernstein Book Signing: All Alone in the World: Children of the Incarcerated

In this “moving condemnation of the U.S. penal system and its effect on families” (Parents’ Press), award-winning journalist Nell Bernstein takes an intimate look at parents and children — over two million of them — torn apart by our current incarceration policies. Described as “meticulously reported and sensitively written” by Salon, the book is “brimming with compelling case studies... and recommendations for change” (Orlando Sentinel); Our Weekly Los Angeles calls it “a must-read for lawmakers as well as for lawbreakers.”

10:00-10:30am  Coffee Break
10:30-11:45am  **Breakout Session A**

| 1. **Abuse & Neglect**  
Supporting Early Connections: Meeting the Needs of Maltreated Infants, Toddlers and Their Families in a Court-Community Partnership  
*Sheri Hill, Ph.D*  
Sheri L Hill, Ph.D., LLC  
Seattle, WA  
*Helen Redman, JD*  
The Defender Association  
Kent, WA  
*Kelly Warner-King, JD*  
Center for Children and Youth Justice  
Seattle, WA | 2. **Juvenile Justice**  
Locking Out Treatment: The Conflicts Between Rehabilitation and Punishment in Adult Facilities  
*Kim Dvorchak, JD*  
Colorado Juvenile Defender Coalition  
Denver, CO  
*Tracey Tronolone, LMSW*  
The Children’s Law Center  
Brooklyn, NY | 3. **Family**  
Effective Client Interviewing  
*Karen Simmons, JD*  
The Children’s Law Center  
Brooklyn, NY  
*Tracey Tronolone, LMSW*  
The Children’s Law Center  
Brooklyn, NY | 4. **Policy**  
Small Towns, Big Problems: Representing Child Welfare Clients in Rural Areas  
*Mara Bernstein, JD*  
California Administrative Office of the Courts  
San Francisco, CA  
*David Meyers, JD*  
California Administrative Office of the Courts  
San Francisco, CA  
*John Myers, JD*  
University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law  
Sacramento, CA | 5. **Children’s Law Office Program**  
Transitioning to Multidisciplinary Children’s Law Offices: Triumphs, Perils and Pitfalls  
*Cathleen Kendall, JD*  
Office of the Child’s Representative  
Denver, CO  
*Linda Weinerman, JD*  
(NACC Board Member)  
Office of the Child’s Representative  
Denver, CO  
*Carolyn Signorelli, JD*  
Office of Chief Child Protection Attorney  
Hartford, CT |

12:00-1:30pm  **Lunch: Optional Session**

Greene v. Camreta: Shades of Greene, a Discussion with Colleagues  
» Separate registration and fee: $35 for attendees and guests (includes lunch).  
Space is limited — register early.

PRESENTED BY  
*Marsha Levick, JD*, Deputy Director and Chief Counsel, Juvenile Law Center, Philadelphia, PA  
*Gary Seiser, JD*, Senior Deputy, Office of County Counsel, Juvenile Dependency Division, San Diego, CA  
» Facilitated by *Chris Wu, JD* (NACC Board Member), Executive Director, Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care, CA Administrative Office of the Courts, San Francisco, CA

OR Lunch on Your Own
1:45-3:00pm Breakout Session B

1. Abuse & Neglect
Finding Permanency for Our Most Vulnerable Youth: Why APPLA Isn’t Good Enough
Patricia Buonodono, JD/CWLS
Georgia Supreme Court Committee on Justice for Children
Atlanta, GA
Christopher Church, JD
Georgia Supreme Court Committee on Justice for Children
Atlanta, GA
Anthony Reeves
EmpowerMEnt
Atlanta, GA

2. Juvenile Justice
Juvenile Sexual Offending: Prevention, Treatment and the Law
Donald Bross, Ph.D./JD (NACC Founder and Board Member Emeritus), Gail Ryan, MA
Kempe Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect
Aurora, CO

3. Juvenile Justice
Counseling Child Clients: A Critical Component of Successful Representation
Lauren Girard Adams, JD
Children’s Rights Litigation Committee, Section of Litigation, ABA
Norwich, VT
Maisley Paxton
George Washington University
Washington, DC

4. Policy
Collaborating to Address Domestic Violence, Child Safety and Well-Being
Joyce Dowell, MSW
Children and Family Services Division, CA Dept. of Social Services
Sacramento, CA
Ann Rosewater, MA
Rosewater Consulting
Atlanta, GA
Christopher Wu, JD (NACC Board Member)
California Administrative Office of the Courts
San Francisco, CA

5. All Practical Steps Attorneys Can Take to Ensure Educational Stability for Their Clients
Amanda Shackelton, JD, Jennifer Staley-McCrady, JD, Tom Welshonce, JD
KidsVoice
Pittsburgh, PA

3:00-3:30pm Break

3:30-5:00pm Plenary Session I: The Power of Boundless Compassion
Presented by Father Greg Boyle, SJ, and two Homeboys

Fr. Greg is a Jesuit priest and the Founder and Executive Director of Homeboy Industries, a nonprofit organization and the largest gang intervention and re-entry program in the country.

5:00-6:30pm Reception

Fr. Boyle Book Signing:
Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion

How do you fight despair and learn to meet the world with a loving heart? How do you overcome shame? Stay faithful in spite of failure? No matter where people live or what their circumstances may be, everyone needs boundless, restorative love. Gorgeous and uplifting, Tattoos on the Heart amply demonstrates the impact unconditional love can have on your life.

Awards Presentations and Introduction of 2011 Certified Child Welfare Law Specialists

Steel Drum Band
Performance by students from the Monarch School, San Diego

Silent Auction to Benefit NACC
Dinner on Your Own
Wednesday, August 31, 2011

8:00-8:30am Continental Breakfast

NACC Certification Introduction and Information on QIC-ChildRep Application Fee Waiver

Learn more about NACC Certification and the fee waivers offered by the Children's Bureau’s National Quality Improvement Center on the Representation of Children in the Child Welfare System (QIC-ChildRep).

8:30-10:00am Plenary Session II: Bias: Impact on Decision-Makers

Presented by

Rita Cameron Wedding, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Women's Studies and Professor of Ethnic Studies at California State University, Sacramento, CA

Bias: Impact on Decision-Makers will discuss how stereotyping, implicit bias and colorblindness can influence decision-making, resulting in disproportionality in child welfare. Much of the bias that occurs in public systems is unintentional. Even people who believe they treat everyone the same can discriminate in subtle but consequential ways. Bias reflected in language, attitudes and actions however slight can affect the application and interpretation of policies, procedures and the law in ways that can contribute to racial disparities. By discussing the impact of implicit bias on decision making, practitioners learn how to have dialogues about race and racism that make them more effective in their decision-making and offer the possibility of improving outcomes for all children.

10:00-10:30am Coffee Break

10:30-11:45am Breakout Session C

1. Abuse & Neglect
   Compelled Disclosure of Patient Confidences in Court-Ordered Treatment Plans: Why It Significantly Harms Parents While Providing Little Protection for Children
   Deborah Paruch, JD
   University of Detroit Mercy School of Law
   Detroit, MI

2. Juvenile Justice
   Rethinking the Ethical Duty of Lawyers in Delinquency Cases to Communicate with Parents*
   David Katner, JD
   Tulane Law School
   New Orleans, LA
   * Pre-Approved for 1.25 legal ethics

3. Family
   Custody Aspects of Military Deployment
   Ann Haralambie, JD
   Ann Nicholson Haralambie, Attorneys, P.C.
   Tucson, AZ

4. Immigration
   Immigrant Children in the Child Welfare System
   Sonia Velazquez, CSS (NACC Board Member)
   American Humane Association
   Washington, DC
   Ken Borelli, MSW/ACSW (Ret.) Deputy Director
   Department of Family and Children’s Services of Santa Clara County, CA

5. Policy
   Improving the Quality of Representation by Creating a Model Resource Center
   Carrie Lee, JD
   Juvenile Justice Center, Barry University School of Law
   Orlando, FL
   Gerard Glynn, JD/LLM (NACC Board Treasurer)
   Clinical Programs, Barry University School of Law
   Orlando, FL
12:00-1:45pm Annual Luncheon:
Child Abuse and Neglect in America: An Illustrated History in Film

American film, television, and media generally have a checkered history at best in portraying child abuse and neglect, ranging from the uplifting and ennobling to the prurient and exploitative. But does film follow society, or the opposite? Which the chicken and which the egg?

Presented by Peter Samuelson

Mr. Samuelson is a media executive and serial pro-social entrepreneur. In 1982, Samuelson founded the Starlight Children’s Foundation—an international charitable organization dedicated to granting wishes for seriously ill children. In 1990, Samuelson, Steven Spielberg and General Norman Schwarzkopf founded Starbright World, an online social network to educate, encourage and empower children to cope with the medical, emotional and social challenges of their illness. In 1999, Samuelson co-founded First Star, a charitable organization that advocates on behalf of America’s abused and neglected children. In 2006, Samuelson founded Everyone Deserves A Roof to develop and widely distribute through established service agencies a mobile single-user homeless shelter on wheels. Samuelson serves as President of Splashlife, Inc., a double-bottom-line membership network where young adults find community and enjoy important membership benefits and entertainment. Samuelson has produced two dozen motion pictures including Revenge of the Nerds, Wilde and Arlington Road.

Separate registration and fee: $35 for attendees and guests. Space is limited — register early.

2:00-3:15pm Breakout Session D

1. Abuse & Neglect
   Representing Pregnant and Parenting Teens in the Dependency System
   Roxanna Alavi, JD, Andrew Cain, JD, Rachel Fightmaster, JD, Heidi Koh, JD
   Legal Advocates for Children and Youth, Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
   San Jose, CA

2. Abuse & Neglect
   Hot Topics in Dependency: Beyond Statutory Hearings* Candi Mayes, JD/CWLS, Tilisha Martin, JD/CWLS/MSW
   Dependency Legal Group of San Diego, San Diego, CA
   * Pre-Approved for 1.25 elimination of bias in the legal profession

3. Juvenile Justice
   Defending and Advocating for Children at Detention and the Dangers of Detention
   Carrie Lee, JD
   Juvenile Justice Center, Barry University School of Law Orlando, FL

4. Policy
   Multi-Systemic Advocacy to Increase and Improve Legal Representation for Children in Foster Care: The Washington State Experience
   Erin Shea McCann, JD
   Columbia Legal Services Seattle, WA
   Jim Theofelis, MC/CD/CHT
   The Mockingbird Society Seattle, WA
   Casey Trupin, JD
   Columbia Legal Services Seattle, WA

5. Children’s Law Office Program
   Access to Higher Education for Foster Youth: Best Practices to Ensure Higher Education Options for Foster Youth
   Michelle Lustig, MSW/Ed.D
   San Diego County, CA Office of Education, Student Services & Programs, Student Support Services, Foster Youth and Homeless Education Program
   Deborah Lowe Martinez, JD
   California Independent Scholars Network
   Jenny Vinopal, MSW
   Foster Youth Programs, CSU Office of the Chancellor
   Long Beach, CA
### Breakout Session E

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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</table>
| 3:45-5:00pm | **1. Abuse & Neglect**  
Collaboration vs. Zealous Advocacy: Ethically Inconsistent or Highly Compatible?*  
Candi Mayes, JD/CWLS  
Dependency Legal Group of San Diego  
San Diego, CA  
John Passalacqua, JD/CWLS  
Ukiah, CA  
Gary Seiser, JD/CWLS  
Office of County Counsel, Juvenile Dependency Division  
San Diego, CA |
|         | **2. Abuse & Neglect**  
Addressing the Cultural and Permanency Needs of Native American Children when ICWA is Established Late or Not At All  
Tracy Mills, JD  
Martha Pierce, JD  
Office of Guardian ad Litem  
Salt Lake City, UT |
|         | **3. Juvenile Justice**  
Preserving the Record for Appeal or How Thinking About an Appeal Can Help You Try Your Case  
Judith Harris, JD/MSW, Judith Waksberg, JD  
The Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Practice  
New York, NY |
|         | **4. Children's Law Office Program**  
Rebooting, Rebuilding, and Reinvigorating a Child Law Office  
Tamara Steckler, JD (NACC Board Member)  
The Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Practice  
New York, NY |

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### Off-Site Activity: San Diego Sightseeing Tour

Join your colleagues for a fully narrated trolley tour of beautiful San Diego. Colorful anecdotes, humorous stories, and historical information are combined into a two-hour narrative that will both entertain and educate. Highlights include:

- Old Town San Diego State Historic Park
- Seaport Village
- Balboa Park
- USS Midway Museum
- San Diego Harbor
- Gaslamp Quarter
- Little Italy
- Coronado
- Tour will pick-up and drop-off in front of the Hotel del Coronado.

**Separate registration and fee:** $50 for conference attendees and guests (includes tour and dinner — catered with gourmet sandwiches). **Space is limited — register early.**
Thursday, September 1, 2011

8:00-8:50am **CASA-Attorney Collaboration**

**PRESENTED BY**
Jan Sherwood, JD/CWLS (NACC Board Member), Law Offices of Janet G. Sherwood, Corte Madera, CA
Michael Piraino, CEO, National CASA Association

8:30-9:00am **Continental Breakfast**

9:00-10:15am **Breakout Session F**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Work Practice from the Inside: What Every Parent’s Attorney Should Know</td>
<td>“But I Saw it On TV”: Keeping Forensic Guesswork Out of the Courtroom</td>
<td>Building a Bridge from Foster Care to Financial Self Sufficiency</td>
<td>What Our Work Does to Us — Managing Secondary Trauma</td>
<td>Youth in Foster Care and Psychotropic Medications: Strategies to Improve Health Outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drew Cabral, MSW, Rommel Cruz, JD, Donna Reyes, MSW, Cristina Sanchez, JD, Jennifer Turner, JD</td>
<td>Katherine Mullen, Erin Palacios</td>
<td>Melanie Delgado, JD, Robert Fellmeth, JD (NACC Board Member),</td>
<td>Beth Hofmeister, JD, Vicki E. Light, JD/MPH, Brad Martin, JD, Jennifer Melnick, MSW/LCSW</td>
<td>Melissa Carter, JD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependency Legal Group of San Diego, Conflict Parent Office San Diego, CA</td>
<td>The Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Practice Brooklyn, NY</td>
<td>The Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Practice San Diego, CA</td>
<td>The Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Practice NY</td>
<td>Barton Child Law and Policy Center, Emory Law School Atlanta, GA</td>
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10:15-10:30am **Coffee Break**
10:30am-12:00pm  **Plenary Session III: Switch**

*Presented by* Playwrights Project from *Telling Stories: Giving Voice to Foster Youth*

Founded in 1985, Playwrights Project is a nonprofit organization devoted to advancing literacy, creativity and communication by empowering individuals to voice their stories through playwriting programs and theatre production. The *Telling Stories* program is designed to encourage foster youth and their caregivers to voice their experiences through theatre, in an effort to communicate the unique issues facing those involved in the foster care system.

» The production will be followed by a discussion with a Playwrights Project staff member, emancipated foster youth, social worker, and youth advocate.

**Closing**

» Door Prizes, including an all-expense-paid trip (airfare, hotel, and conference registration) to the 2012 NACC 35th National Conference. **You must be present to win!**

» Closing Remarks

12:00pm  **Adjourn**
### Breakout Session A  Tuesday 10:30-11:45am

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Abuse &amp; Neglect</td>
<td>Supporting Early Connections: Meeting the Needs of Maltreated Infants, Toddlers and Their Families in a Court-Community Partnership. This presentation will describe an innovative court-community partnership addressing the relationship and mental health needs of maltreated infants and toddlers. Information on how brain research can inform children’s, parents and agency attorneys; practical tips; resources; and reproducible tools, forms and related materials will be provided.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Family</td>
<td>Effective Client Interviewing. Because children are unique and express themselves in both verbal and non-verbal ways, understanding how they feel about where they want to live and with whom they feel safe can be difficult. Yet their insight and feelings are vital to each case. Join an interactive presentation to discuss ways of engaging and assessing a client in an interview.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Policy</td>
<td>Small Towns, Big Problems: Representing Child Welfare Clients in Rural Areas. Attorneys who practice in rural areas often lack readily available access to the requisite knowledge, skills and expertise needed to effectively represent clients. This workshop will identify challenges endemic to rural practice and provide strategies, tips and solutions to common dilemmas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Children’s Law Office Program</td>
<td>Transitioning to Multidisciplinary Children’s Law Offices: Triumphs, Perils and Pitfalls. For those states, jurisdictions or individual attorneys who would like to consider transitioning from an independent contractor model to multidisciplinary children’s law offices, this presentation will be a how-to concerning the various processes available for setting up the offices and other issues to be considered.</td>
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### Breakout Session B  Tuesday 1:45–3:00pm

<table>
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<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Abuse &amp; Neglect</td>
<td>Finding Permanency for Our Most Vulnerable Youth: Why APPLA Isn’t Good Enough. Working cooperatively can lead to finding permanent families for our most vulnerable youth. This session will provide an overview of those strategies, and EmpowerMEnt, Georgia’s youth-led foster care advocacy group, will provide their own perspective on growing up in, and aging out of, foster care through their own creative medium.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Juvenile Justice</td>
<td>Juvenile Sexual Offending: Prevention, Treatment and the Law. Ms. Ryan will summarize and explain how management and treatment of children and adolescents who sexually abuse others has been transformed in the past thirty years. Dr. Bross will review legislation and case law trends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Juvenile Justice</td>
<td>Counseling Child Clients: A Critical Component of Successful Representation. This program will use an multidisciplinary approach to provide children’s lawyers with critical techniques and strategies to enhance their ability to effectively and ethically counsel their child clients.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Policy</td>
<td>Collaborating to Address Domestic Violence, Child Safety and Well-Being. Developing effective and consistent policies and practices for courts and service providers in cases where DV and child maltreatment co-occur requires effective collaboration among diverse professionals. Attendees will hear about a successful statewide collaboration in CA and discuss the challenges of addressing these cases in their jurisdiction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. All</td>
<td>Practical Steps Attorneys Can Take to Ensure Educational Stability for Their Clients. Whether the advocate is working for an organization or is a solo practitioner, this presentation, which will include real case scenarios and audience participation, will provide practical guides and tips to ensure educational stability for clients.</td>
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### Breakout Session C  Wednesday 10:30-11:45am

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Experience Level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Abuse &amp; Neglect</td>
<td>Compiled Disclosure of Patient Confidences in Court-Ordered Treatment Plans: Why it Significantly Harms Parents While Providing Little Protection for Children</td>
<td>Attendees should come away with an understanding of the importance of confidentiality in their clients’ therapist-patient relationships. They will learn the ways in which agencies and well intentioned court personnel, through mandated reporting, can cause irreparable damage to this relationship.</td>
<td>Parent’s Attorneys</td>
<td>All</td>
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### Breakout Session D  Wednesday 2:00-3:15pm

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<tr>
<td>1. Abuse &amp; Neglect</td>
<td>Representing Pregnant and Parenting Teens in the Dependency System</td>
<td>This session will address the question of what changes occur in a dependency case when the dependent minor becomes pregnant or has a child, and offers practical advice on how minor’s counsel should advocate on behalf of the pregnant or parenting minor.</td>
<td>Children’s Attorneys</td>
<td>1-5 / limited child welfare experience</td>
</tr>
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### Other Sessions

- **2. Juvenile Justice**
  - Rethinking the Ethical Duty of Lawyers in Delinquency Cases to Communicate with Parents
  - Understand the law, policy, and practice of custody and visitation where military parents are deployed, including the application of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, modification of orders, delegation of parenting rights, and military family care plans.

- **3. Family**
  - Custody Aspects of Military Deployment
  - This session is intended to explore the issue of identifying potential conflicts between parents and their children in delinquency cases, and then crafting an ethics rule which would require counsel for children to communicate with the parents, unless an adverse relationship or direct conflict of interest can be identified on the record.

- **4. Immigration**
  - Immigrant Children in the Child Welfare System
  - Children of immigrants represent one of the most vulnerable populations in our country, and one of the least likely groups to receive the services they need and for which they are legally eligible. This session will review and discuss effective resources and successful advancements by public systems serving immigrant children.

- **5. Policy**
  - Improving the Quality of Representation by Creating a Model Resource Center
  - This is a two-fold workshop that will discuss the need for a juvenile resource center and will examine the steps necessary to create such a resource center as well as tips to make it successful to improve the representation of kids.
### Breakout Session E  Wednesday 3:45-5:00pm

**1. Abuse & Neglect**  
"Collaboration vs. Zealous Advocacy: Ethically Inconsistent or Highly Compatible?"  
Attorneys have an ethical duty of zealous advocacy, but courts want them to collaborate. Can an attorney ethically do both or are they inconsistent? This discussion by three experienced practitioners will focus on the ethical duty of zealous advocacy, the need to work together whenever possible, and whether there is a bridge between the two.  
**Targeted Audience:** Parent’s Attorneys/Children’s Attorneys/Agency Attorneys  
**Audience Experience Level:** All

**2. Abuse & Neglect**  
Addressing the Cultural and Permanency Needs of Native American Children when ICWA is Established Late or Not At All  
Early in a case, a child may be covered by the Interethnic Adoption Act and later, once ICWA is implicated, by the policies of that seemingly conflicting act, even though it is the same child with the same needs. How can practitioners address the cultural and permanency needs of such children while complying with relevant federal law?  
**Targeted Audience:** Parent’s Attorneys/Children’s Attorneys/Agency Attorneys  
**Audience Experience Level:** All

**3. Juvenile Justice**  
Preserving the Record for Appeal or How Thinking About an Appeal Can Help You Try Your Case  
Areas covered will include: purpose of the preservation rule; theory of the case; objections; offers of proof; legal sufficiency; ensuring the record is complete.  
**Targeted Audience:** Children’s Attorneys  
**Audience Experience Level:** All

**4. Children’s Law Office Program**  
Rebooting, Rebuilding, and Reinvigorating a Child Law Office  
A child law office can effectuate meaningful and long-lasting reform and improve advocacy for child clients by utilizing all the legal, legislative and policy tools available. Learn how to maximize the impact and leverage the resources of your child law office all while boosting staff morale, even in tough economic times.  
**Targeted Audience:** Children’s Attorneys  
**Audience Experience Level:** All

### Breakout Session F  Thursday 9:00-10:15am

**1. Abuse & Neglect**  
Social Work Practice from the Inside: What Every Parent’s Attorney Should Know  
A discussion of the failure of some social workers to follow protocols to the detriment of parents. An inside look at social worker practices that unfairly impact parents.  
**Targeted Audience:** Parent’s Attorneys  
**Audience Experience Level:** 1–5 / limited child welfare experience

**2. Juvenile Justice**  
"But I Saw it On TV": Keeping Forensic Guesswork Out of the Courtroom  
Trial skills for attacking forensic science and expert witnesses in the courtroom both orally and on written motion. Specifically addressing ballistics, fingerprints, arson investigation, chemical testing, medical experts, and crime scene investigation.  
**Targeted Audience:** Children’s Attorneys  
**Audience Experience Level:** 1–5 / limited child welfare experience

**3. Policy**  
Building a Bridge from Foster Care to Financial Self Sufficiency  
Several barriers to financial self sufficiency remain in place for older foster youth who are transitioning out of care. Experts in this area, including former foster youth, will teach attorneys what they need to know about these barriers, how to help their clients avoid or overcome them, and will present innovative ideas for broader advocacy.  
**Targeted Audience:** Children’s Attorneys  
**Audience Experience Level:** All

**4. Children’s Law Office Program**  
What Our Work Does to Us - Managing Secondary Trauma  
The workshop will present qualitative and quantitative data of Secondary Trauma Stress that affects employees of an interdisciplinary children’s law office. Our goals are to develop an awareness of professional boundaries, create an internal sense of balance and recommend systemic ways of addressing STS in the workplace.  
**Targeted Audience:** Children’s Attorneys/Agency Attorneys  
**Audience Experience Level:** All

**5. All**  
Youth in Foster Care and Psychotropic Medications: Strategies to Improve Health Outcomes  
Psychotropic drugs are given to 25% - 45% of youth in foster care. Advocates will learn the risks and benefits of drugs and other treatments and how to advocate for a child's mental health needs. Attendees will learn systemic approaches that improve mental health and permanency outcomes and will see examples of successful court and system changes.  
**Targeted Audience:** Children’s Attorneys/Agency Attorneys  
**Audience Experience Level:** All
### Conference Registration

**Regular Registration** online, or postmarked before July 29, 2011
- NACC Member: $395
- Non-Member: $495

**Procrastinator Registration** online, or postmarked after July 29, 2011
- NACC Member: $445
- Non-Member: $545

**Optional Add-Ons**

**Monday, August 29, 2011**
- Red Book Training
  - Includes coffee, lunch, and Red Book Second Ed.; see page 4
  - I will attend: $250.00
- Eliminating Bias
  - Includes coffee and lunch; see page 4
  - I will attend: $175.00

**Tuesday, August 30, 2011**
- Lunch Session: Greene v. Camreta
  - Includes lunch; see page 5
  - I will attend: $35.00
  - I will bring ___ guests: $35 each

**Wednesday, August 31, 2011**
- Annual Luncheon
  - Includes lunch; see page 7
  - I will attend: $35.00
  - I will bring ___ guests: $35 each

**Thursday, September 1, 2011**
- NACC Bus: Hotel to Airport
  - See page 2
  - 1st Choice: 10:00 pm: ___ people: $30 each
  - 1st Choice: 2:00 pm: ___ people: $30 each
  - 1st Choice: 3:00 pm: ___ people: $30 each

**Total Amount Enclosed or to be Charged**

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**Please indicate your choices for Breakout Sessions A – F:**

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**PLEASE CHARGE MY**

- **VISA**
- **MASTERCARD**
- **DISCOVER**

**CARD NUMBER**

**EXPIRATION DATE**

**NAME AS SHOWN ON CARD**

**EMAIL ADDRESS OF CARDHOLDER**

**SIGNATURE**

**BILLING ZIP CODE**

**CONFIRMATION**

- Tax ID # 84-0743810
The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) has selected the National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC) to provide a child protection ombudsman program for the State of Colorado. The program was authorized by the General Assembly in 2010.

The Ombudsman Program will facilitate a process for independent and impartial review of family and community concerns, issues and case-related complaints; make recommendations to improve the child welfare system; and promote better outcomes for children and families. The Ombudsman will serve as a key advisor concerning issues relating to child safety and child protection in Colorado by virtue of the responsibility and authority to make advisory recommendations to CDHS, county commissioners, the Governor and the General Assembly based upon the Ombudsman’s findings and expertise.

The NACC was awarded the contract for the Ombudsman program in May 2011, and has begun working with system stakeholders to create procedures and protocols necessary to establish the office. The Ombudsman and staff will be traveling the state this summer on a Listening Tour to receive input from child welfare system stakeholders concerning those procedures and protocol. In addition to this, the Agency has begun taking complaints and embarking on investigations.

Becky Miller Updike will serve as the Child Protection Ombudsman. Updike brings 16 years experience in child and family policy and advocacy, and is a Ph.D. Candidate in Child & Family Leadership at the University of Denver. Updike’s experience includes advocacy and research for several non-profit organizations in the child welfare, judicial, education and child care systems.

In awarding the contract to NACC, Colorado Department of Human Services Executive Director Reggie Bicha said, “I look forward to NACC providing another avenue for Colorado children to be better protected from abuse and neglect and giving a voice to the families impacted by the child welfare system so they receive the high quality services they need.”

State Senator Linda Newell, key sponsor of the legislation authorizing Colorado’s Child Protection Ombudsman program, commented, “Every child in this state deserves to grow up safe and healthy. I’m proud of the work we have done to protect kids in Colorado, and I am even more proud to see this day come. We are taking the right steps to ensuring no child is ever allowed to fall through the cracks. This office will be a beacon of light for abused and neglected children, and I am confident that the NACC is the right organization to lead it.”
Termination of Parental Rights / Foreign Nationals

*Nebraska Court of Appeals Holds State Did Not Deny Father Due Process Rights When It Filed Petition for Termination of Parental Rights Without Notifying the Mexican Consulate.* In re Interest of Antonio O., 784 N.W.2d 457 (Neb. Ct. App. 2010).

Jose lived in a home with his two children and the children's mother. Due to safety concerns, the children were removed from the home and placed in foster care. The State of Nebraska's original temporary custody petition alleged that removal was necessary solely due to the mother's drug abuse. The State subsequently filed a supplemental petition alleging that the children were in danger of harm because of Jose's history of domestic violence.

Several months later, Jose was involved in a domestic violence altercation and was charged with domestic assault in the third degree and sentenced to 40 days in jail. After his arrest, Jose was subject to deportation. Soon thereafter, the State filed a motion to terminate Jose's parental rights, alleging that Jose neglected the children, the children had been in foster care for 15 or more of the most recent 22 months, and Jose had abandoned the children for the requisite 6-month period. The State was unable to personally serve notice to Jose but properly gave notice to his attorney and served notice by publication.

At the termination hearing, Jose's attorney stated that Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services failed to provide written notice to the Mexican consulate to inform it of the termination proceedings as required by the Vienna Convention. The Vienna Convention requires that the foreign consulate be notified of proceedings that involve a foreign national in order to appoint a guardian or trustee. Although the Nebraska Supreme Court has not determined if the Vienna Convention creates a jurisdictional prerequisite to a juvenile court's exercise of jurisdiction, other jurisdictions have determined that compliance with the Vienna Convention is not a jurisdictional prerequisite. Some jurisdictions have held that state courts do not lose jurisdiction for failing to comply with the Vienna Convention unless the complainant shows that he was prejudiced by the failure to notify.

The Nebraska juvenile court determined that although the State had not complied with the Vienna Convention, the juvenile court nonetheless retained its jurisdiction. The court went on to find that termination of parental rights served the children's best interests and terminated Jose's parental rights. Jose appealed, alleging that the State's failure to comply with the Vienna Convention resulted in a deprivation of his due process rights.

The Nebraska Court of Appeals cited *In re Stephanie M.*, a California Supreme Court case that held due process rights belong to an individual and not to a foreign consulate. The Nebraska Court of Appeals found that, although there was no evidence of contact between the State and the Mexican consulate regarding the termination proceeding, Jose's individual procedural due process rights were not violated. Jose was represented by the same attorney from the adjudication through the termination proceedings, which spanned over three years. This attorney received notice of the termination hearing and was present at the hearing. The court held that "if a parent does not attend a termination of parental rights hearing after notice that such proceeding has been instituted and the parent has representation at such hearing through his or her counsel, then there is no denial of due process." Based on Jose's conduct, the court found it extremely unlikely that Jose would have contacted the consulate. The court found no evidence to find that the father was prejudiced by the failure to notify the Mexican consulate. In affirming the juvenile court's ruling, this court found that termination was in the children's best interests.
Dependency / Adoption

The Court of Appeals of Ohio Holds Grant of Permanent Custody to Foster Family is Appropriate Despite Availability of Approved Relative.

In re M.B., 2010 WL 1553562 (Ohio Ct. App., 2010).

When M.B. was a young child, his mother attempted to drown him in the bathtub. After his face became blue, M.B.’s mother changed her mind and revived him. Shortly thereafter, M.B. was placed in foster care and was moved several times before the age of two at which point he remained with one foster family. When M.B.’s sister S.B. was born, she was placed in the same foster home as M.B., and temporary custody was transferred to the Stark County Department of Job and Family Services (the “agency”).

The foster family wanted to adopt both M.B. and S.B., and the agency filed Motions for Permanent Custody with regard to each child. The father surrendered his parental rights but asked that the trial court grant custody of the children to the children’s paternal great aunt.

Although the agency gave the paternal great aunt approval after a home study was conducted, M.B.’s case manager stated she believed it would be in the child’s best interest for him to remain in his foster home. The case manager reasoned that he had already moved several times and that he was very bonded with the foster family. Further, an expert for the agency testified that the attempt by M.B.’s mother to drown him was an extremely traumatic experience which could likely lead to the child having serious difficulties with relationships. The expert described the fact that M.B. had bonded with his foster family as “remarkable” and stated such a bond should not be broken.

Based on the case manager and expert’s testimony along with M.B.’s and S.B.’s history, the trial court granted permanent custody of the children to the agency for adoption, therefore terminating the father’s parental rights. The father appealed the judgment on the grounds that the trial court’s judgment was against the manifest weight of the evidence. The Court of Appeals of Ohio stated that the trial court’s determination that it is in the best interest of the child to grant permanent custody should be given a high degree of respect due to the nature of the hearing and the impact of the holding on the involved parties. *In re Awkal*, 642 N.E.2d 424 (1994).

The court then looked to the *Ohio Revised Code § 2251.414(D)*, which outlines the criteria to consider when determining the best interest of a child at a permanent custody hearing. The trial court must consider: (1) the relationship of the child with parents, siblings, relatives, foster parents, and others; (2) the child’s wishes; (3) the child’s custodial history; and (4) the need for a secure, permanent placement and whether such placement can occur without a grant of permanent custody.

The Ohio Supreme Court in *In re Schaefer* found that the trial court does not have to find that there is no appropriate relative available for placement in order to grant permanent custody to an agency. 857 N.E.2d 523 (Ohio 2006). Rather, the Ohio statute mandates that the trial court must take into consideration all relevant factors listed in the preceding paragraph. No one factor is to be weighed more heavily than other factors. *Id.*

Accordingly, the Court of Appeals of Ohio found that the grant of permanent custody to the agency was not against the manifest weight of the evidence. Although there was an available and appropriate relative to take custody of the children, the Court of Appeals of Ohio determined the trial court did not abuse its discretion because the trial court took into consideration all of the relevant factors when determining it would be in the best interest of the children to be placed in permanent custody of the foster family.
Dependency / Termination of Parental Rights

Arizona Court of Appeals Holds Father’s Prison Term Did Not Deprive Child of a Normal Home for a Period of Years.


Two months after S.L.’s birth, his mother was arrested for selling illicit drugs and S.L. was placed in foster care. Child Protective Services subsequently learned that Matthew, S.L.’s alleged father, was incarcerated for attempted possession of narcotic drugs for the purpose of selling. The Arizona Department of Economic Security (“ADES”) therefore filed a paternity and dependency petition. After finding that Matthew was indeed S.L.’s father, the case goal was family reunification. Because both parents were unavailable to parent S.L. at that time, the court ordered that S.L. be placed with his maternal grandparents.

While incarcerated, Matthew received a GED, completed a parenting class, and completed various drug rehabilitation courses. He also attempted to contact the case manager many times, by phone and letter, but was unable to reach him. The case manager acknowledged he had “made no effort to contact [Matthew].”

After a couple of months, the case goal changed from family reunification to adoption. Mother’s parental rights were terminated. ADES filed a motion to terminate Matthew’s parental rights. The motion alleged that Matthew’s 3.5 year prison sentence deprived S.L. of a normal home for a period of years and that termination of Matthew’s parental rights was in S.L.’s best interests. The juvenile court denied ADES motion for termination and ADES appealed.

The Arizona Court of Appeals began its review of the case by stating it would only disturb the juvenile court’s holding if reasonable evidence did not support its factual findings. To terminate parental rights, there must be a statutory ground for termination proven by clear and convincing evidence, and there must be clear and convincing evidence that the termination would be in the child’s best interests.

The Arizona Supreme Court has articulated six factors to consider when deciding if a parent’s prison sentence “deprives a child of a normal home for a period of years.” The factors are: (1) the length and strength of any parent-child relationship existing when incarceration begins, (2) the degree to which the parent-child relationship can be continued and nurtured during the incarceration, (3) the age of the child and the relationship between the child’s age and the likelihood that incarceration will deprive the child of a normal home, (4) the length of the sentence, (5) the availability of another parent to provide a normal home life, and (6) the effect of the deprivation of a parental presence on the child at issue.

The juvenile’s court’s holding did not make specific findings regarding these factors and ADES alleged the court erred in not doing so. The Arizona Court of Appeals found no error because when denying a motion to terminate parental rights, the court does not need to make findings. Conversely, when terminating parental rights, the court is required to make specific findings.

The Arizona Court of Appeals then reviewed each factor. The length and strength of the parent-child relationship was weak because Matthew was incarcerated when S.L. was born and was uncertain he was S.L.’s father. For the second factor, the Arizona Court of Appeals found that ADES unnecessarily delayed the court-ordered paternity test and that the case manager never contacted Matthew even after various attempts by Matthew — these acts by ADES made it difficult for Matthew to nurture a relationship with S.L. Further, Matthew took a parenting class while in prison and hoped that S.L. could be placed with a friend who would bring S.L. for visits to the prison.

Concerning the third factor, the court noted that S.L. would have been almost three once Matthew was released from prison, but Matthew contended monthly visits would allow for parental contact. Regarding the fourth factor, the length of the sentence, the Arizona Court of Appeals held the juvenile court correctly considered both the maximum release date and the anticipated release of nearly a year earlier. For the fifth factor regarding the availability of another parent, S.L.’s mother was incarcerated and the juvenile court had terminated her parental rights. For the sixth factor, Matthew admitted S.L. had been deprived of parenting but stated he thought prison visits would provide S.L. with parental contact.

In sum, the Arizona Court of Appeals held that reasonable evidence supported the juvenile court’s decision not to terminate Matthew’s parental rights.
**Delinquency / Double Jeopardy**

*Florida Court of Appeals Holds Trial Court Violated the Double Jeopardy Clause When It Modified Juvenile's Probation Sentence Without First Finding Juvenile Violated Probation.*

V.M.S. v. State, 43 So.3d 938 (Fla. 4th DCA 2010).

A juvenile was charged with battery and entered a plea of no contest. The circuit court placed her on probation and withheld adjudication. She was subsequently charged with a separate offense and placed in a detention center. While in the detention center, the trial court held a second hearing concerning the battery charge. The court held the second hearing at the request of the juvenile’s mother in order to have her daughter’s probation modified. The mother asked that her daughter’s probation be modified so that she would be required to attend a private school. However, the juvenile’s attorney stated that the probation officer had determined that public school was a “good option” for the juvenile. The prosecutor added that the court did not have jurisdiction to modify the sentence.

The trial judge determined that he did have supervisory jurisdiction to modify probation and he granted the mother’s motion for modification. The mother asked that her daughter’s probation be modified so that she would be required to attend a private school. However, the juvenile’s attorney stated that the probation officer had determined that public school was a “good option” for the juvenile. The prosecutor added that the court did not have jurisdiction to modify the sentence.

The trial judge determined that he did have supervisory jurisdiction to modify probation and he granted the mother’s motion for modification. The mother asked that her daughter’s probation be modified so that she would be required to attend a private school. However, the juvenile’s attorney stated that the probation officer had determined that public school was a “good option” for the juvenile. The prosecutor added that the court did not have jurisdiction to modify the sentence.

The Florida Court of Appeals began its review by stating that the Double Jeopardy Clause of the Fifth Amendment applies to juvenile proceedings. One of the protections guaranteed by the clause is the protection “against multiple punishments for the same offense.” North Carolina v. Pearce, 395 U.S. 711, 717 (1969). Therefore, a court cannot enhance a defendant’s probationary sentence if the state has not first charged the defendant with violating her probation and the court has then determined that the defendant did violate probation. Lippman v. State, 633 So.2d 1061, 1064-65 (Fla. 1994). The court in Lippman held that adding conditions to defendant’s probation enhanced the defendant’s original probation.

The court then stated that similar to Lippman, the circuit judge in this case modified the juvenile’s probationary sentence without her being found to have violated her probation. By requiring the juvenile to attend the private school, the judge enhanced the original sentence, making the sentence more severe. Thus, the Appeals Court held that the trial court had violated the juvenile’s right against double jeopardy. The court reversed the modified probation with instructions to reinstate the original probation order.

**Dependency / Drug Use**

*Appellate Court of Oregon Holds that Juvenile Court did not Find a Link Between Drug Use and Harm to Children and Therefore Erred in Granting Jurisdiction to the Juvenile Court.*


Mother and father have two children, one who was 1.5 years old and another who was six months old at the time of the original dependency hearing. The Department of Human Services (DHS) first became involved with the family when there was a report that a man was selling methamphetamine from the parent’s home. Upon investigation, a DHS representative found the father at the family home under the influence of a controlled substance. Mother then arrived home with the children.

The parent’s home was clean, and the children appeared happy and healthy. After the home visit, DHS discovered that father was a registered sex offender. While DHS investigated whether father had completed required sex offender treatment, both parents agreed to a voluntary protective plan and the children went to stay with their maternal grandmother.

As part of the voluntary protective plan, mother provided a urine sample that tested positive for marijuana. She admitted to using marijuana at a party recently, but stated she did not frequently use marijuana and never used the drug around her children. She provided another sample a few weeks later and tested negative for all drugs. DHS requested that mother provide another sample in a couple months, but she did not show up to provide one, stating she had been ill.
DHS subsequently filed dependency petitions for the children, alleging that mother’s substance abuse and father’s admitted alcohol abuse endangered the children. The juvenile court held that the state had met its burden in alleging that mother’s marijuana abuse was likely to harm the welfare of the children, stating that “failure to attend the UA, or dilute UAs, are positive UAs to the Court.”

Mother appealed, alleging that the state had failed to show by a “preponderance of the evidence that there was a reasonable likelihood of harm to the welfare of the child.” She stated the state had failed to show a reasonable likelihood of harm because it did not demonstrate any link between her behavior and a particular risk to the children.

The Oregon Court of Appeals stated that it had reversed a prior judgment giving the juvenile court jurisdiction where the state did not show that the parent’s substance abuse created a “reasonable likelihood of harm” to the children. State ex rel. Dept. of Human Services v. D.T.S., 219 P.3d 702(2005).

The state argued that substance abuse might be found harmful because it created a harmful environment for the children and that the substance abuse did not need to involve the children directly for this finding. The Oregon Court of Appeals agreed with the state’s analysis of the law; however, the court noted that the juvenile court did not find, either explicitly or implicitly, that mother’s drug use endangered the children.

The juvenile court had not found that the mother had ever used drugs in the presence of the children, or in the home, or that the drug use created a harmful environment. The court reversed the juvenile court’s finding because there was no shown link between the drug use and any harm to the children.

### Adoption Proceedings

**Massachusetts Court of Appeals Holds Trial Court Did Not Err in Denying Mother’s Adoption of her Son Despite Consent of both Mother and Father.**

Adoption of Mariano, 933 N.E 2d 677 (Mass. App. Ct. 2010).

Mariano was born in January of 2008. Six months after Mariano’s birth, his parents separated because of frequent fights. In September of 2008, the mother and father attempted to reconcile but were unsuccessful. The mother then filed for divorce based on irretrievable breakdown of marriage. The father last saw Mariano in September of 2008.

The father did not visit Mariano after the separation because visiting Mariano meant seeing Mariano’s mother and her parents whom he viewed as hostile towards him. The father agreed to surrender his parental rights and to allow the mother to adopt Mariano. The father believed this was in the best interest of Mariano because he thought continued contact between the mother and him would create an atmosphere of animosity harmful to Mariano.

Mariano’s father is twenty-three years old and works in overnight employment. At the time of the first trial, he had saved $4,000 for child support obligations. Mariano’s mother is twenty-four and earns $251 per week as a hairdresser. After the parents’ separation, Mariano and his mother resided with the mother’s parents who provided financial assistance and childcare.

The trial judge determined that the mother could provide “love, nurturance and security” for Mariano and that there was currently no relationship between Mariano and his father.
Nevertheless, the trial judge stated that it is “not the wishes of the parents, but rather the best interests of the child [that] determine adoption,” and he concluded it was in Mariano’s best interest to preserve a connection between Mariano and his father. *Adoption of Tammy*, 619 N.E.2d 315 (1993). Therefore, the trial judge dismissed the petition for adoption.

The mother appealed on three grounds: (1) that the judge erred in determining the best interests of Mariano; (2) that the father’s well-thought out surrender of Mariano deserved to be implemented; and (3) that the judge’s conclusion that it was in Mariano’s best interest to maintain a relationship with his biological father lacked proper evidentiary support.

The Massachusetts Court of Appeals began by stating that the proper standard of review was abuse of discretion review. For the mother’s first claim of error, that the judge incorrectly calculated what the best interests of Mariano were, the Appeals Court determined that the judge’s decision was reasonable. Allowing the mother to adopt Mariano would have terminated all legal rights and duties between the father and Mariano.

The court first discussed the financial benefits that the adoption would preclude for Mariano, including terminating his rights to child support and disqualifying him from any inheritance from the father. The court determined that these potential losses were significant in this case because Mariano’s mother relied on financial support from her parents who were not regularly employed. Further, the court discussed that adoption by one parent would heighten the risk of Mariano’s need for public assistance and would therefore conflict with “the public policy that parents, not the State, should support their children.” *Adoption of Marlene*, 822 N.E.2d 714 (2005).

Aside from financial assistance, the Appeals Court determined that having a connection with his biological father furthered Mariano’s best interests. The Court stated that the relationship between Mariano and his biological father had the potential for affection, companionship and guidance, either now or later. The Appeals Court held it was reasonable for the trial judge to find it was in the best interests of Mariano not to sever these rights connected with a father-child relationship.

The court then addressed the mother’s second contention that the father’s well-thought out surrender of Mariano deserved implementation. The Appeals Court determined that a young parent enmeshed in the many emotions of divorce is not in a good position to make an irrevocable decision of surrendering his biological child. The court also discussed that Mariano’s father displayed uncertainty regarding his decision to terminate all involvement with Mariano and was more certain regarding terminating his relationship with the mother.

Lastly, the court dismissed the mother’s third contention that the judge’s conclusion lacked evidentiary support. The mother alleged that the judge erred when citing from published studies that stated children desire to know the identification of their biological parents. The court found that this reference was harmless because it was stated in the judge’s conclusion and was not a finding of fact.

The court upheld the trial court’s decision, stating “the objectively determined best interests of the child, and not the subjective best wishes of the parents — no matter how well informed — are decisive.”
Cases

ICPC Reform


A Florida appellate court found that the best interests of the child trumped strict compliance with ICPC. In the case, a 17 year old child remained with an uncle in NY after a temporary visit which technically violated the ICPC and the Florida authorities demanded his immediate return even though all parties agreed that he was flourishing in the home. The trial court ordered him to return back to Florida but stayed its order pending appeal. On appeal, the court of appeals found that the teenager could remain with his uncle because the placement was clearly in his best interests. More info at: http://www.4dca.org/opinions/Jan%202011/01-26-11/4D10-4104.op.pdf.

Amicus Curiae Update

The NACC Amicus Curiae Program promotes the legal interests of children and families through the filing of amicus curiae (friend of the court) briefs in state and federal appellate courts. The NACC files its own briefs and participates as co-amici in cases of particular importance to the development of child welfare and juvenile law. In recent years, the NACC has filed briefs in numerous state appellate courts, federal courts of appeal and The Supreme Court of the United States. To submit a request for the NACC to participate as Amicus Curiae in a case, visit www.NACCCchildlaw.org and click the “Amicus Curiae” tab.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that a child’s age must be considered by law enforcement in determining whether Miranda warnings must be given to children during police interrogations.

The NACC joined the Juvenile Law Center in an amicus curiae brief to the USSC, which was cited by the Court. Congratulations to the Juvenile Law Center for its extensive work on this issue. For more information, visit: http://www.jlc.org/news/landmark_u.s._supreme_court_decision_protects_miranda_rights_for_youth/.

National Law Journal Picks the Child Advocacy Institute’s Amicus Curiae brief in Camreta v. Green as “Brief of the Week.”

Congratulations to Chair of the NACC Board of Directors, Bob Fellmeth! For more information, visit: http://www.law.com/jsp/nlj/PubArticleNLJ.jsp?id=1202482856562&slreturn=1&hbxlogin=1.

NOTICE TO READERS

Decisions reported in The Guardian may not be final. Case history should always be checked before relying on a case. Cases and other material reported are intended for educational purposes and should not be considered legal advice. Cases reported in The Guardian are identified by NACC staff and our members. We encourage all readers to submit cases. If you are unable to obtain the full text of a case, please contact the NACC and we will be happy to furnish NACC members with a copy at no charge.
Fee Waivers are Still Available!
Application Deadline Extended to July 31, 2011
Best of luck to the attorneys and judges from California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Utah who sat for the exam this Spring. New Child Welfare Law Specialists will be announced in July and honored at the NACC Conference in San Diego, California.

Red Book Trainings
The NACC recently partnered with Illinois and Wyoming to offer the one-day Red Book Training free of cost to practitioners. The Administrative Office of Illinois Courts is offering 10 trainings across the state (see next page). The Illinois training series is on track to reach over 300 attorneys by the end of the summer.

Similarly, in Wyoming the NACC partnered with the Children’s Justice Project to host the Red Book training as a pre-conference to their annual Children’s Justice Conference. It will also be offered in Montana this October as part of the 6th Annual Office of the Public Defender State-wide Meeting and Training Conference.

The Red Book training helps promote best practices for lawyers representing parties in child welfare proceedings. It covers the major competency areas of child welfare practice as outlined in the Red Book and explores the intersection of federal law and state practice.

Contact Daniel Trujillo if you are interested in bringing the training to your community.

Now Open in Kansas and Missouri
We’re pleased to announce we are now accepting applications in Kansas and Missouri. Attorneys and judges are encouraged to apply this year — the application deadline has been extended to July 31, 2011.

QIC-ChildRep Fee Waiver
The U.S. Children’s Bureau’s National Quality Improvement Center on the Representation of Children in the Child Welfare System (QIC-ChildRep) is providing a waiver for one-half of the $600 Certification Fees. The waiver will be applied to the $300 Application Fee on a first-come, first-served basis to the first 200 applications submitted to the NACC. Attorneys who receive the QIC ChildRep Waiver will be responsible for the $300 Examination Fee. To be eligible for the Waiver attorneys must submit with their application a commitment to sit for the exam if eligible.

Contact the NACC to obtain the Certification Standards and an application or visit naccchildlaw.org/?page=Certification for additional information.

As of January 2011, NACC accepts certification applications from attorneys in these jurisdictions:

2011 Target States
The NACC is applying to open certification in Alabama, Arizona, and Minnesota. We anticipate accepting applications as early as January 2012.

Interested in Bringing Certification to Your State?
Please contact Daniel Trujillo, Certification Administrator, at Trujillo.Daniel@tchden.org or 303-864-5359.
Congratulations! **2011 Child Welfare Law Specialists**

Congratulations to the 76 attorneys and judges that have just attained their CWLS credential! There are now 441 CWLS nationwide. It was also the first group certified in both Colorado and New Jersey. The 2011 CWLS will be honored at the 34rd Annual Conference Reception in San Diego, California on Tuesday evening, August 30, 2011.

**CALIFORNIA**
- Samyra Chequer
- Barbara Duey
- Sylvia Duran
- Julie Moss-Lewis
- Sarah Oliver
- Gabriella Raymond
- Paula Roach
- Deborah Robinson
- Ezra Siegel
- Michael Torcivia
- Tiffany Vargas-Andrews

**COLORADO**
- Susan Blanco
- Mary Camp
- Randall Lococo
- Amy Markwell
- Susan Mueller
- Dianne Peterson
- Anna Ulrich

**CONNECTICUT**
- Kelly Babbitt
- Dana Clark
- Patrice Cohan
- Brian Fournier
- Alan Giacomi
- Matthew Gilbride
- Edward Joy
- Bruce Levin
- Pamela McAvay
- Susan Rothenberg
- Bruce Schreiber
- Angela Sherriff
- Dana Simoni
- Robert Skelley
- Rosemarie Weber
- Howard Wicker

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
- Rhondalyn Primes
- Okoroma

**GEORGIA**
- Laurie Fallon
- Karlise Grier
- Nathan Hayes
- Willa Howick
- Robin McCallum
- Kellie Rogers
- Ashley Stinson
- Katherine Terry
- Michelle Vereen
- Victoria Wuesthoff

**NEW JERSEY**
- Lorraine Augustini

**NEW MEXICO**
- Wilma Brown
- Alan Wagman

**NEW YORK**
- Adira Hulkower
- Sara Reisberg

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**
- Michael Chamberlain
- Deborah Mulcrone
- Sunniva Mulligan Shea

**NORTH CAROLINA**
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- Patricia Fenimore
- Dixie Jackson
- William Middleton
- Connie Mower
- Trent Nelson
- Brent Newton
- Hollee Petersen
- Jennifer Spangenberg
- Cheri Stringham
- Cas White
Federal Policy Advocacy

The NACC engages in federal policy advocacy in order to expand its role as a national systems change agent. The NACC has established a part-time presence in Washington, D.C. in which a national policy advocate works to represent the organization and helps the NACC advance its policy priorities.

The following are a snapshot of the NACC’s 2011 national advocacy efforts in Washington, D.C.

National Coalitions

The NACC works with the following coalitions to advance its policy objectives:

- National Child Abuse Coalition
- Child Welfare & Mental Health Coalition
- National Foster Care Coalition
- Children’s Leadership Council
- Children’s Rights Litigation Committee, ABA Section of Litigation
- Voices for America’s Children

Special Legislative and Policy Initiatives

- Summer 2011 — Voices for America’s Children National Forum — Memphis

Financial Security and Self-Support for Foster Youth

- Spring 2011 — Congressional Roundtable/Briefing to support legislation to better protect and support transition-age foster youth
- 2010–2011 — Foster Children Financial Security Act advocacy
- 2010–2011 — Foster Children Self-Support Act advocacy
  - Senate bill introduced May, 2011
  - House Bill slated for introduction summer 2011

CAPTA (Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act)

- Fall/Winter 2011 — Advocate for proposed amendments dealing with right to counsel for children and improved child fatality reporting.
- Fall/Winter 2010 — Participate and provide feedback and comments to Senate HELP Committee on draft bill.
- Spring 2011 — Provide continuing feedback to DHHS Administration for Children and Families on CAPTA implementation and regulations.

Fostering Connections to Success Act Implementation

- Fall 2010 Advocacy with DHHS Administration for Children and Families to ensure flexibility and breadth in interpretation of independent living under statue.

Child’s Right to Counsel in Dependency Proceedings

- 2010 ABA Annual Meeting Presidential Showcase on Right to Counsel for Children.

National Commission to Prevent Child Abuse Fatalities

- Spring 2011 — Working with Senator Kerry’s office and other Senators to establish a Presidential Commission to coordinate research and reporting on child fatalities from child abuse and improve reporting and outcomes.

Introduction of S.961-Reconnecting Youth to Prevent Homelessness Act of 2011

- Worked with Senator Kerry and other offices and organizations to introduce this bill which would improve training, educational opportunities, and permanency planning for older foster youth and reduce homelessness among the nation’s young people.
Important Notice: Change of NACC Email Addresses

On June 22, The Children’s Hospital, which houses the NACC, officially changed its name to Children’s Hospital Colorado. As a result, NACC staff email addresses changed (from lastname.firstname@tchden.org to firstname.lastname@childrenscolorado.org) accordingly:

Maureen Farrell-Stevenson, JD
President/CEO
Maureen.Farrell-Stevenson@childrenscolorado.org

Amanda Donnelly, JD
Executive Director
Amanda.Donnelly@childrenscolorado.org

Anne Kellogg, JD
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Daniel Trujillo
Certification Administrator
Daniel.Trujillo@childrenscolorado.org

Sara Whalen
Office Manager
Sara.Whalen@childrenscolorado.org

Janis McCubbrey
Membership Director
Janis.Mccubbrey@childrenscolorado.org

Taylor Stockdell
Development and Events Administrator
Taylor.Stockdell@childrenscolorado.org

Please take a moment to update your files.

Note: Both old and new email addresses are effective until September 30, 2011. After that date, old email addresses will be deactivated. The email address advocate@NACCchildlaw.org will remain effective indefinitely.
The Guardian is Green! In consideration of the environmental impact of printing and distributing The Guardian as a printed newsletter, we’ve made the decision to distribute exclusively in PDF format. In addition to environmental benefits, this affords a richer reading experience, including clickable links for additional content, convenient navigation tabs at the bottom of each page, and the opportunity for future additional interactive content. We encourage feedback regarding both content and structure/format, and how the new Guardian may best serve you. Please submit comments to: advocate@NACCchildlaw.org. We encourage you to consider the environment before printing this document.

Congratulations to NACC Founder Don Bross, JD, PHD, Director of Training, Education and Consultation, for his receipt of the Ronald C. Laney Distinguished Service Award from the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC)! The Ronald C. Laney Life Time Service Award is awarded on a periodic and exceptional basis by the Board of Directors of APSAC to an individual who has exhibited a life time of service to others.

APSAC is the leading national organization supporting professionals who serve children and families affected by child maltreatment and violence. As a multidisciplinary group of professions, APSAC achieves its mission in a number of ways, most notably through expert training and educational activities, policy leadership and collaboration, and consultation that emphasizes theoretically sound, evidence-based principles. For more information, visit: www.APSAC.org.

Connecticut Requires Lawyers for Children
The Connecticut Legislature recently enacted Public Act 11-51, Sec. 17 amending the state’s appointment statute and making it clear that all children in child protection cases are assigned attorneys and that only where protective action is necessary under the same standard as the Rules of Professional Conduct can a separate guardian ad litem be appointed. The full text is available at: http://www.cga.ct.gov/2011/ACT/PA/2011PA-00051-R00HB-06650-PA.htm.

Changes to NACC email addresses: see page 27

NACC Children’s Law Listserv Information Exchange
All NACC members are encouraged to join the NACC Listserv, which provides a question, answer and discussion forum on children’s law issues. To join, send an email to: advocate@NACCchildlaw.org, and request to be added.

Please submit children’s law news and job openings to: The Guardian, 13123 East 16th Avenue, B390, Aurora, CO 80045 advocate@NACCchildlaw.org
1-Day Survey Course in Child Welfare Law and Practice

A free training offered by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) in coordination with the National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC)

This project is funded through Federal Fiscal Year 2009 State Court Improvement Program – Training Grant (CFDA 93.586) awarded to the Illinois Supreme Court by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children, Youth, and Families.

For more information contact AOIC Program Manager Heather Dorsey at 217-785-4275 hdorsey@court.state.il.us


Child welfare law is an increasingly complex area of practice. Practitioners must understand and be familiar with federal and state law and procedure, federal funding streams, medicine, mental health, and child development. This course covers the major competency areas of child welfare practice, including: the context of child welfare law, the legal framework for child welfare proceedings, navigating the legal process, roles and duties of legal counsel, and court room advocacy. The training will examine the federal law and policy that provide a framework for child welfare law in Illinois, and explore the intersection of federal law and state practice.

Eligible participants are attorneys licensed and practicing in the State of Illinois representing the state, children, parents, or the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Register at www.NACCchildlaw.org

AOIC Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts
217-785-4275

National Association of Counsel for Children
1-888-828-NACC

2nd Edition
Child Welfare Law and Practice
Representing Children, Parents, and State Agencies in Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Cases

Donald N. Duquette & Ann M. Haralambie
General Editors
Child Welfare Law and Practice: Representing Children, Parents, and State Agencies in Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Cases (2nd ed.)

This important book presents the body of knowledge that defines child welfare law as a unique and specialized field. Over the past several decades, a national model for child welfare practice has emerged, and in 2004 the American Bar Association designated child welfare law as a formal legal specialty. This book will serve the reader as a practice reference, a training manual, and a certification exam study guide.

In this second edition the authors have added ten new chapters and made extensive updates and revisions to the first edition.

New and Expanded Topics Include:
- Indian Child Welfare Act
- Investigative interviewing of the child
- Counseling legal clients who are children
- The practice of child welfare casework
- Child safety
- Representing parents
- Federal due process
- Education goals for children in foster care
- Transition of youth from foster care to adulthood
- Plus many more!

To learn more and/or order the book, please visit: www.bradfordpublishing.com.

Note: NACC members are entitled to a 20% discount, (enter the code NACC in the shopping cart when you checkout).

Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion, by Fr. Greg Boyle.

How do you fight despair and learn to meet the world with a loving heart? How do you overcome shame? Stay faithful in spite of failure? No matter where people live or what their circumstances may be, everyone needs boundless, restorative love. Gorgeous and uplifting, Tattoos on the Heart amply demonstrates the impact unconditional love can have on your life.

All Alone in the World: Children of the Incarcerated, by Nell Bernstein.

In this “moving condemnation of the U.S. penal system and its effect on families” (Parents’ Press), award-winning journalist Nell Bernstein takes an intimate look at parents and children — over two million of them — torn apart by our current incarceration policies. Described as “meticulously reported and sensitively written” by Salon, the book is “brimming with compelling case studies... and recommendations for change” (Orlando Sentinel); Our Weekly Los Angeles calls it “a must-read for lawmakers as well as for lawbreakers.”

Born for Love: Why Empathy Is Essential — and Endangered


The book guides readers as they navigate the complex child welfare system and plan interventions and treatment. It is written from the perspective of a judge (Judge Cindy S. Lederman, Circuit Judge—11th Judicial Circuit, Miami), a psychologist (Joy D. Osofsky, Ph.D., Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry, LSU Health Sciences Center), and an early intervention expert (Lynne Katz, Ed.D., Director, Linda Ray Intervention Center, Miami). Available at: www.brookespublishing.com.

Daycare and Delinquency


Adult Children of Parental Alienation Syndrome: Breaking the Ties that Bind


DVD — Psychotropic Medications:
The Medicated Child, produced by FRONTLINE (2008). With over four million children now on behavior modifying medications, some starting as young as two years old, FRONTLINE continues its investigation into the controversial practice of medicating kids. Are the drugs safe? How young can you detect mental illness in a child? Is medication really the answer? As the
debate grows more intense, FRONTLINE investigates the risks and benefits of prescription drugs for troubled children.


Providing Attorneys for Children in Dependency and Termination of Parental Rights Proceedings in Florida: The Issue Updated
by Michael J. Dale and Louis M. Reidenberg. 35 Nova L.Rev.305.

Ask Us Who We Are, Produced & Directed by Bess O’Brien.
Ask Us Who We Are is a documentary film focused on the challenges and extraordinary lives of youth in foster care. The film is a reflection on loss and the search for belonging and finding family. Although the film highlights the heartbreak that many foster care youth carry with them as they move through their lives, the documentary also reveals the tremendous strength and perseverance that grows out of their determination to survive and thrive.

Available at: http://www.kingdomcounty.org/shop_and_book_us/.

Flux: Life After Foster Care, by Leigh Ecke and Misty Stenslie, Foster Care Alumni of America. “We wrote this book by asking ourselves, ‘what do I wish someone had told ME when I was 15, 18, 25?’ FLUX is our answer to that question. Those of us who aged out of foster care in previous generations would have loved this book.” said Misty Stenslie, deputy director of Foster Care Alumni of America. “Unless you have actually lived the process of leaving foster care and trying to figure out how to be an ‘independent’ adult, you can’t really know what it is like. For too many of us, learning how to care for ourselves and build our own lives is a messy process of trial and error. FLUX provides context to the emotions, challenges and opportunities in a very complicated transition. While it won’t make the process easy, it will help make some sense out of the journey."

Available at www.fostercarealumni.org or 703.299.6767.


Assessing the Quality of Child Advocacy in Dependency Proceedings in Pennsylvania.
# Thank You

The National Association of Counsel for Children thanks the following donors and members for their contribution to the NACC, and to children and families.

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- Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
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- Colorado Juvenile Defender Coalition
- Colorado Office of the Child’s Representative
- Family Law Section of the State Bar of Texas
- International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Juvenile Law Section of the State Bar of Texas
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- National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
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- Southwest Airlines
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- Texas CASA
- Texas Foster Youth Justice Project
- Texas Lawyers for Children
- Texas Supreme Court Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families
- Thank you