

# SACHA M. COUPET

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO SCHOOL OF LAW • 25 EAST PEARSON STREET • CHICAGO, IL • 60611  
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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO, SCHOOL OF LAW. CHICAGO, IL  
*Associate Professor of Law* July 2010 to Present  
*Director of Research Civitas ChildLaw Center*  
*Assistant Professor of Law* July 2004 to July 2010

Courses taught: Family Law; Child, Parent & State; Alternative Dispute  
Resolution; International and Comparative Family Law;  
Science in the Law; ChildLaw Trial Practice

Research areas: Child Welfare; Family Law; Kinship Caregiving; Child and  
Family Well-Being; Juvenile Justice; Children's Rights;  
Therapeutic Jurisprudence

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LAW CENTER. HOUSTON, TX  
*Distinguished Fellow* May 2009 to Present  
*Center for Children, Law and Policy*

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL. ANN ARBOR, MI  
*Dean's Fellow and Clinical Assistant Professor of Law* August 2002 to July 2004  
*Bergstrom Child Welfare Law Summer Training Faculty* Summers 2004 to 2009

Taught and supervised advanced law students enrolled in Child Advocacy Law  
Clinic in representation of children, parents and state agencies in child  
protection proceedings. Teach in Bergstrom Child Welfare Summer Fellowship  
Training on child welfare, kinship care and trial advocacy.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Legal Publications

#### Articles/Essays:

Beyond 'Eros:' Relative Caregiving, 'Agape' Parentage and the Best Interests of  
Children, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY JOURNAL OF GENDER, SOCIAL POLICY, AND THE LAW  
(forthcoming 2011).

Towards Coherency: The American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Model  
Standards for Child Custody Evaluations (forthcoming 2011).

Ain't I a Parent? Exclusion of Kinship Caregivers from Debate over Expansions of Parenthood, 34 NYU REV. L. & SOCIAL CHANGE 595 (2010).

The Subtlety of State Action in Privatized Child Welfare Services, 11 CHAPMAN L. REV. 85 (2007).

Neither Dyad, nor Triad: Children's Relationship Rights within Kinship Caregiving Families, 41 UNIV. MICH. J. L. REFORM 77 (2007).

Swimming Upstream Against the Great Adoption Tide: Making the Case for "Impermanence," 34 CAPITAL UNIV. L. REV. 405 (2005).

*Troxel v. Granville: Implications for At Risk Children and the Amicus Curiae Role of University-Based Interdisciplinary Centers for Children*, 32 RUTGERS L.J. 857 (2001) (co-authored with Barbara Bennett Woodhouse).

Comment, *What To Do With the Sheep in Wolf's Clothing: The Role of Rhetoric and Reality About Youth Offenders in the Constructive Dismantling of the Juvenile Justice System*, 148 U. PA. L. REV. 1303 (2000).

*Exploring Kinship Care*, 1 MICH. CHILD WELFARE L.J. 24 (1996).

#### Book chapters:

Boys will be Girls, will be Boys, will be...?: Exploring Gender Identity Rights for Children, in *KIDS, SEX AND THE LAW*, Sacha M. Coupet and Ellen Marrus (Eds.) NYU Press (in progress).

Grandmothers Raising Grandchildren, in *OLDER WOMEN: CURRENT AND FUTURE CHALLENGES OF PROFESSIONALS WITH AN AGING POPULATION*, Marcia Spira and Teresa Kilbane (Eds.) Bentham Books, (in progress).

Girl Offenders: Special Issues, in *CHILD VICTIMS, CHILD OFFENDERS: PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW*, Bette L. Bottoms, Gail S. Goodman and Cynthia J. Najdowski (Eds.) Guilford Press, (2009) (co-authored).

Grandparent Rights, in 28 ILLINOIS JURISPRUDENCE, ELDER LAW, LEXIS-NEXIS, (2006) (invited author).

#### Books:

*KIDS, SEX AND THE LAW*, Sacha M. Coupet and Ellen Marrus (Eds.) NYU Press (in progress).

### Social Science Publications:

Book Review, *Multiple Lenses, Multiple Images: Perspectives on the Child Across Time, Space and Discipline*, *Children and Youth Services Review* (2006) Vol 28, No. 10, 1267-1271.

*A Deaf Girl in a Hearing World and All in the Family*, 2 J. CLINICAL ACTIVITIES, ASSIGNMENTS & HANDOUTS IN PSYCHOTHERAPY PRACTICE 3 (2001).

Cognitive Appraisals and Family Dynamics as Predictors of Adjustment and Well-Being in Elderly Kinship Caregivers (1997) (unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, University of Michigan).

Sandra Graham-Bermann, Victoria Banyard, Sacha Coupet, Lesley Egler, & Jacqueline Mattis, *Interpersonal Relationships and Adjustment of Children in Homeless and Economically Distressed Families*, 25 J. CLINICAL CHILD PSYCHOLOGY 250 (1996).

### PRESENTATIONS

*Gender Identity Rights for Transgendered Children*. Invited Speaker, Panel Presentation, Children's Legal Rights Journal Symposium, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, Illinois (2011, November).

*Protecting Children's Rights through Multidisciplinary Forensics: Interviewing Children*. Invited Speaker, Panel Presentation, Center for the Human Rights of Children, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, Illinois (2011, November).

*Juvenile Psychopathy and Juvenile Punishment: What the Psychological Literature and the Supreme Court tell us*. Invited Panel Discussant, 119<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Washington D.C. (2011, August).

*Beyond 'Eros:' Relative Caregiving, 'Agape' Parentage and the Best Interests of Children*. Invited Speaker, Panel Presentation, The New "Illegitimacy:" Revisiting Why Parentage Should Not Depend on Marriage, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C. (2011, March).

*The Development and Use of an Advance Planning Tool for Grandparent Caregivers*. Invited Speaker, Panel Presentation, Illinois Governor's Conference on Aging, Chicago, Illinois (2010, December).

*Interviewing Child Victims of Violence: A Developmental Approach*. Invited Speaker, Panel Presentation, Human Trafficking and Exploitation of Children in the United States, Center for the Human Rights of Children, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, Illinois (2010, September).

*Gender Identity Rights for Transgendered Children*. Invited Speaker, Center for Children, Law & Policy, University of Houston Law Center, Houston, Texas (2009, October).

*Children and the Law Junior Faculty Workshop.* Invited Senior Scholar, Francis Lewis Law Center at Washington & Lee University, Lexington, Virginia (2009, July).

*Grandparents as Parents: Legal Dimensions.* Invited Speaker, Children's Summer Institute, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Chicago, Illinois (2009, June).

*Critical Race Theory and Family Law.* Invited Speaker, Panel Presentation, CRT 20: Honoring Our Past, Charting Our Future, University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa (2009, April).

*Integrating Children's Perspectives into the Marriage Equality Debate.* Invited Speaker, Same-Sex Marriage Symposium, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Chicago, Illinois (2009, March).

*Discursive Exclusion in the Multiple Parentage Debate.* Faculty Speaker, University of Pittsburgh Law, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (2009, March).

*Integrating Children's Voices into Children's Representation.* Invited Speaker, Youth Empowerment Initiative Training, Cook County Office of the Public Guardian, Chicago, Illinois (2009, February).

*Children, Sex and the Law.* Panel Moderator, Section on Children and the Law, Association of American Law Schools 2009 Annual Meeting, San Diego, California (2009, January).

*Does Conjugal Matter? Negotiating Parenthood in Kinship Caregiving Families.* Invited Speaker, Faculty Colloquia, Washington University School of Law, St. Louis, Missouri (2008, November).

*Special Considerations: Understanding the Influence of Linguistic and Cognitive Development when Interviewing Children in Legal Settings.* Panel Presentation at the Illinois State Bar Association, Section on Children and the Law, Chicago, Illinois (2008, November).

*Breaking Open the Rule of Two: Exploring the Centrality of Conjugal in the Multiple Parentage Debate.* Invited Speaker, Faculty Enrichment Speaker Series, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University College of Law, Orlando, Florida (2008, October).

*Multiple Parentage in the Context of Kinship Caregiving.* Panel Presentation at the Inaugural Annual Midwest Family Law Conference, Indiana University School of Law, Indianapolis, Indiana (2008, June).

*Legal and Societal Barriers to Adoption in South Asia.* Panel Moderator at the 5th Annual meeting of the North American South Asian Bar Association, Chicago, Illinois (2008, June).

*Beyond the Dyad: Exploring Children's Relationship Rights.* Works-In-Progress Presentation at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwestern People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, Washington University School of Law, St. Louis, Missouri (2007, April).

*Beyond the Dyad: Exploring Children's Relationship Rights.* Panel Presentation at the University of Michigan Child Advocacy Law Symposium, Ann Arbor, Michigan (2007, March).

*Understanding the Impact of Trauma on Child Development.* In-service training for child advocacy staff, Mkombozi (Centre for Street Children), Moshi, Tanzania (2007, March).

*Applying Facts to Family Law: Implications of Empirical Research on Kinship Caregivers for Family Law and Policy.* Panel Presentation, Section on Family and Juvenile Law, Association of American Law Schools 2006 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (2006, January).

*Applying Therapeutic Jurisprudence to Child Welfare: Examining the Relationship between Kinship Care Policy and Kinship Caregiver Mental Health.* Presentation at the 29<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Law and Mental Health, Université René Descartes and Sorbonne, Paris, France (2005, July).

*Finding Freud in Law.* Presentation at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Psychology Graduate Career Panel, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan (2005, February).

*Problems of Legal Recognition for Kinship Caregivers in the U.S.* Presentation at the International Society of Family Law, North American Conference, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada (2001, June).

*Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Legal and Policy Issues.* Facilitated presentation at the Kinship Care National Satellite Video Conference, Regional Roundtable Discussion, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2001, February).

*New Voices: Listening to Children.* Presentation at the Family Law Symposium 2000: The American Family in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Family Law Section of the Philadelphia Bar Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2000, November).

*Applications of Social Science Research to Kinship Caregiving Policy and Legal Reform.* Presentation to the Philadelphia Kinship Care Task Force, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (1998, September).

*Family Style, Appraisal and Adjustment in Kinship Foster Care.* Presentation at the 50<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Cincinnati, Ohio (1997, November).

*Facilitating Attachment Through Kinship Foster Care.* Presentation at the 74<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Orthopsychiatric Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada (1997, March).

*Meeting the Health Needs of Foster Care Children.* Presentation at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Medstart Conference, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan (1997, January).

*Who Hurt the Baby? The System's Choices When No One Knows How the Injuries Occurred.* Presentation at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Michigan Statewide Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Ypsilanti, Michigan (1995, October).

*Father Absence and Paternal Support in Homeless and Low Income Housed Families.* Poster presentation at the 101<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada (1993, August).

## EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, PA

*J.D., graduated in May 2000*

James Wilson Fellow; University of Pennsylvania Law Review, Associate Editor; Black Law Student Association, Community Service Committee, Chair; Custody and Support Assistance Clinic, Student Advocate

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

*Ph.D., graduated in December 1997*

Psychology; Major Area: Clinical Psychology  
Thesis: Cognitive Appraisals and Family Dynamics as Predictors of Adjustment and Well-Being in Elderly Black Kinship Caregivers

NIA-NIH Minority Research Dissertation Grant (1 R03 AG014923-01)

*M.A., awarded in May 1994*

Psychology; Major Area: Clinical Psychology  
Thesis: Paternal Absence and Perceptions of Paternal Presence in Low-Income Housed and Homeless Children

Washington University, St. Louis, MO

*A.B., graduated in May 1991*

Majors: Psychology and French

L'École Européenne des Affaires à Paris, Paris, France

European Business Management, 1989-1990

## LEGAL WORK EXPERIENCE

*Law Clerk to District Judge Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr.*  
United States District Court for the District of New Jersey  
Newark, New Jersey

Researched questions of law and assisted in drafting of memoranda and opinions of law. Dates of employment: October 2001 to August 2002.

*Law Clerk to Circuit Judge Theodore A. McKee*

United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Researched questions of law and assisted in drafting of memoranda and opinions of law. Dates of employment: September 2000 to September 2001.

*Summer Law Associate*

Schnader, Harrison, Segal & Lewis, LLP, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Researched questions of law and prepared memoranda in the area of civil litigation, including product liability, domestic relations, and civil rights matters. Participated in pro bono representation of an infant in child protection proceedings. Dates of employment: July 1999 to August 1999.

*Summer Law Associate*

Steptoe & Johnson, LLP, Washington, D.C.

Researched questions of law and prepared memoranda in the area of criminal and civil litigation, including R.I.C.O. defense, employee benefits, and employment discrimination matters. Drafted briefing memo for United Nations C.E.R.D. committee. Participated in pro bono representation of kinship caregiver in custody litigation. Dates of employment: May 1999 to July 1999.

*Summer Legal Intern*

Juvenile Law Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Researched questions of law and prepared memoranda regarding provision of medical services to foster children, juvenile justice legislative reform, and minors' capacity to consent to mental health treatment. Drafted advisory letters to Pennsylvania state government agencies regarding implementation of juvenile justice policy. Dates of employment: May 1998 to August 1998.

*Pro Se Advisor*

Custody and Support Assistance Clinic

Philadelphia Legal Assistance, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Provided legal advice and assistance to low-income pro se litigants concerning custody and support matters. Dates of participation: September 1997 to May 1998.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL WORK EXPERIENCE

*Psychological Consultant and Clinical Supervisor*

Children's Service Incorporated

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Evaluated and assessed mental health status of children receiving wraparound behavioral services. Provided clinical supervision for three mobile therapists. Dates of employment: February 1999 to August 2000.

*Psychological Consultant*

The Consortium Children's Growth and Development Program

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Evaluated and assessed children and adolescents in partial hospitalization program for individual treatment needs and program efficacy. Dates of employment: September 1998 to August 2000.

*Psychological Consultant*

The Michigan Child Welfare Law Resource Center  
University of Michigan Law School, Ann Arbor, Michigan  
Assisted in research and preparation of psychological reference materials for child welfare lawyers in the state of Michigan. Dates of employment: May 1996 to September 1996.

*Clinical Psychology Intern*

University Center for the Child and the Family  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan  
Trained in areas of psychological evaluation; individual, family and conjoint therapy; psychological testing. Participated in Community Mental Health Deaf Services treatment. Conducted Ann Arbor Headstart, Department of Social Services and Washtenaw County Juvenile Court assessments. Provided psychological consultation to the University of Michigan Law School Child Advocacy Law Clinic. Dates of full-time employment: July 1993 to September 1995; Dates of part-time employment: September 1995 to August 1996.

### UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Loyola University, Gender Equity Commission (2007-present)  
Loyola University, University Women's Commission, Survey Task Force (2005-2006)  
Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Faculty Appointments Committee (2005-2006; 2011-2012)

### PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC SERVICE

*Peer reviewer:* Judicature, American Judicature Society (2011); Psychology, Public Policy and Law journal, American Psychological Association (2003-present); Oxford University Press (2008-present)

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, Section on Special Concerns of Children, Standards for Custody Evaluations Committee, *Reporter* (2008-2009)

Association of American Law Schools, Section on Children and the Law, *Chair*, (2009-2010); *Chair-Elect* (2008-2009); *Executive Committee* member (2007-2008)

### PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Bar Admission, Michigan, January 2003  
Bar Admission, Pennsylvania, April 2001 (inactive status)

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Bar Association  
Michigan Bar Association  
American Psychological Association  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues