

# **MOTHERLODE: Lawyering, Parenting (and Writing About It) in the Age of “Having it All”**

A Special Presentation of the Harvard Law School Law & Arts Initiative  
and the Association of the Bar of New York City

**Monday, May 23, 2011**  
**6:30 pm**

**Association of the Bar of New York City**  
**42 West 44th Street New York, NY 10036**

## **Description**

Every professional woman with children is familiar with the conflicts that career and motherhood can pose – whether it’s juggling conference calls with music lessons, getting home in time to have dinner with the kids, or preserving time to do your best work, what conscientious lawyer has not struggled with the demands of being an equally conscientious mom?

Three prominent law school graduates-turned-writers examine the bottomless, sometimes heart-wrenching choices that working mothers face in the increasingly complex world of child-rearing. From the competitive pressures of academic performance to the frightening world of bullying, working mothers face a host of parenting challenges that our own mothers rarely engaged with . . . challenges that even elite professional training can’t always prepare us for. In the age when women can supposedly “have it all,” are we up to the task of doing it all?

## **Panelists**

**Amy Chua** is the John M. Duff Professor of Law at Yale Law School, and the author of the *New York Times* bestselling memoir, Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother. The subject of unprecedented media coverage, including a *Time Magazine* cover story, Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother is a bestseller in a number of foreign countries, including the U.K., Germany and China, and is being translated into 22 languages.

Prior to entering academics, Ms. Chua practiced with the firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton. Her first book, World on Fire: How Exporting Free Market Democracy Breeds Ethnic Hatred and Global Instability was a *New York Times* bestseller and an *Economist* Best Book of the Year. Her second book, Day of Empire: How Hyperpowers Rise to Global Dominance – and Why They Fall was a critically acclaimed *Foreign Affairs* bestseller.

Ms. Chua received her A.B. in 1984 and her J.D. in 1987, both from Harvard University. While at Harvard Law School, she was executive editor of the *Harvard Law Review*. She joined the Yale Law School faculty in 2001, and currently teaches in the areas of contracts, law and development, international business transactions, and law and globalization. She is also a

recipient of the Yale Law School's "Best Teaching" award, and the mother of two girls, ages 15 and 18. For more information about Ms. Chua and her books, please visit [www.amychua.com](http://www.amychua.com) and <http://www.facebook.com/amytigermother>.

**Emily Bazelon** is a senior editor at *Slate*, a contributing writer at the *New York Times* Magazine, and the Truman Capote Fellow for Creative Writing and Law at Yale Law School. She is currently working on a book about bullying for Random House. Before joining *Slate*, she worked as an editor and writer at *Legal Affairs* magazine and as a law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 1st Circuit. She is a graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School. She is a finalist for the 2011 Michael Kelly journalism award from the Atlantic media group. She lives in New Haven with her husband and two sons, ages 8 and 11.

**Julie Buxbaum** is the author of two critically acclaimed novels, [The Opposite of Love](#) and [After You](#), and her writing has appeared in *The New York Times* and other publications. Her work has been translated into twenty languages, and [The Opposite of Love](#) has been optioned for film by Twentieth Century Fox, with Anne Hathaway attached to star. Before quitting the law to become a novelist, Ms. Buxbaum was a litigator at a large law firm in both New York and Los Angeles. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard Law School, she currently lives in London with her husband (a former lawyer) and their daughter. She is currently hard at work on her third novel, [The Modern Girl's Handbook](#). For more information about Ms. Buxbaum and her novels, please visit her website: [www.juliebuxbaum.com](http://www.juliebuxbaum.com).

### **Moderator**

**Theresa Park** is the founder and principal of The Park Literary Group, a New York-based literary agency. She is a graduate of the University of California at Santa Cruz and Harvard Law School, and the mother of two boys, ages 7 and 11.