

Art of Social Change: Child Welfare, Education and Juvenile Justice (The)

Fall term, [Block K](#)

Th 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Professor Elizabeth Bartholet and Ms. Jessica Budnitz

2 classroom credits LAW-30691A

This course deals with strategies for changing law and policy, focusing on the areas of child welfare (abuse and neglect, foster care, adoption both domestic and international), education, and juvenile justice. We will bring into the classroom as visiting lecturers leaders from the worlds of policy, practice, and academia -- people who have themselves operated as successful change agents, and who represent different disciplines, career paths, and strategies for change. We will explore some of the most significant reform initiatives in our targeted areas, and debate with the speakers and each other how best to advance children's interests. Receptions will follow the class meetings, enabling students to talk informally with the visiting speakers, as well as with the HLS Faculty and those from the Boston-area child advocacy community who form a regular part of our audience. Each student will have the opportunity to attend one of the dinners involving the visiting speakers, the faculty, and interested others, that will take place after the reception. See <http://www.law.harvard.edu/academics/cap/> for a schedule of the speakers and topics for last year's course.

Course requirements consist of brief questions/reactions related to the readings and class presentations, turned in weekly.

This course is part of the Child Advocacy Program (CAP), whose other courses are: Child, Family, and State, the Child Advocacy Clinic, and the Future of the Family seminar. Students participating in this Art of Social Change course will get a preference for admission to the Winter-Spring and Spring versions of the Child Advocacy Clinic and related fieldwork placements, and to the Future of the Family seminar. Enrollment in all CAP courses is encouraged but not required.

Cross-registrants are welcome.