Future of the Family: Adoption, Reproduction and Child Welfare: Seminar

Spring term, Block H

Professor Elizabeth Bartholet
2 classroom credits LAW-93971A

This seminar is for students interested in writing a research paper on any issue related to the above range of topics, as well as for students interested in doing papers on ideas explored in connection with any Child Advocacy Program (CAP) course (Child, Family & State, The Art of Social Change, CAP Clinic). Initial class sessions will focus on readings related to general substantive area and also research and writing issues, and later sessions will focus on student work. Students will receive extensive guidance and feedback on their writing.

Students must attend scheduled meetings with the Professor prior to the start of the Spring term to discuss potential paper topics. Possible issue areas include but are not limited to: parenting and procreation; child abuse and neglect; family preservation policy; high-tech infertility treatment; the commercialization of reproduction (sale of eggs, sperm, embryos and pregnancy services); non-traditional family forms (single parenting, gay/lesbian parenting, same-sex unions and marriage, transracial and international adoption); and fetal abuse, sex selection, cloning, stem cell research and the new eugenics options.

Requirements include: regular attendance, active participation, presentation of own work, feedback on others' work, and a research paper. Students are encouraged to write a substantial paper for an additional credit; this can be used to satisfy the School's Written Work Requirement.

This seminar is part of the Child Advocacy Program (CAP), whose other courses are: Child, Family, and State, the Art of Social Change, and the Child Advocacy Clinic. Enrollment in all CAP courses is encouraged but not required.

Students must make add/drop decision by no later than Friday Jan 20, 10 am. Students wanting to add/drop after this deadline can do so only with permission of the Professor. Students failing to attend mandatory pre-term meetings to discuss paper topic will be dropped from the seminar.

Permission required for 1Ls and cross-registrants. No permission required for other students.