

Children's Law Masterclass

Thursday 8 August | 9-11am | Law Society House, Brisbane
and Online



Program

8.45am **Registration**

9am **Admissions & Records of Interview**

We take a look at the distinction between adults and children when it comes to records of interview. In this session we will deal with exclusion of improperly taken Records of Interview and how to consider those issues in your practice.

Presenters:

Laura Reece, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Danielle Liffe, Senior Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland; Member, Queensland Law Society, Children's Law Committee

Peta Dent, Principal Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland

Chair: **Jesse Hill**, Senior Legal Professional Development Executive, Queensland Law Society



9.30am **Pre-sentence reports and contradictions in evidence**

Following from the first part of the session, we take a look at admissibility in the context of pre-sentence reports in youth justice.

Presenters:

Laura Reece, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Danielle Liffe, Senior Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland; Member, Queensland Law Society, Children's Law Committee

Peta Dent, Principal Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland

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10.30am Restorative Justice, the merits and the issues

We delve into the common issues that are encountered in the restorative justice process for practitioners. This portion will be centred around a case study, incorporating elements that might have flown from other issues.

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Danielle Liffe, Senior Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland; Member, Queensland Law Society, Children's Law Committee

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11am **Event concludes**

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Presenters

Peta Dent

Principal Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland

Peta is an Acting Principal Lawyer in the Youth team at Legal Aid Queensland. She has extensive experience in criminal law having worked in private practice and at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service prior to joining Legal Aid Queensland.

For the last six years Peta has practised almost exclusively in the Childrens Court jurisdiction. Peta is aware of the nuances of this jurisdiction and is dedicated to helping her clients and other practitioners navigate the Childrens Court.



Jesse Hill

Senior Legal Professional Development Executive, Queensland Law Society

Jesse comes to the QLS from private practice, where he worked exclusively in commercial litigation. Prior to his time in litigation, he worked in the Queensland Public Service in highly pressurised roles.

Jesse is acutely aware of many of the challenges faced by the legal profession both in the private and public sphere. He now seeks to equip legal practitioners with the tools and knowledge they need to thrive in practice.

Danielle Liffe

Senior Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland; Member, Queensland Law Society, Children's Law Committee

Danielle is an Acting Senior Lawyer with Youth Legal Aid Queensland. Danielle joined Legal Aid Queensland after commencing her legal career in the community legal sector working with both YFS Legal and the Youth Advocacy Centre.

Danielle is acutely aware of the complexities of the youth justice system and issues facing children in Queensland. Danielle recognises the over-representation of First Nations children in both the youth justice and child protection systems and continues to work towards upholding the rights of all Queensland children. A keen mentor and advocate, Danielle is committed to contributing to the professional development of all those who work in this sector.

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Laura Reece

Barrister, Queensland Bar

Laura was admitted to the Bar in 2006 and worked for almost ten years as an in-house barrister for Legal Aid Queensland, commencing at the private bar in 2017. She has appeared for accused persons in courts all over Queensland, regularly travelling to regional and remote centres.

An experienced trial advocate, Laura appears regularly in the superior courts. She also has experience in appellate work.

Laura has a keen interest in regulatory, anti-discrimination and sexual harassment, administrative (including disciplinary) and public law matters. She has developed particular expertise in proceedings under the Youth Justice Act and the Mental Health Act.

Laura has long been involved in policy work and law reform, and is a member of the Criminal Law and Human Rights committees of the Bar Association. In March 2021 she was appointed by the Attorney-General of Queensland to the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce. In June 2022 she was appointed one of the Counsel Assisting Mr Walter Sofronoff QC in The Commission of Inquiry into Forensic DNA Testing in Queensland.