

Lois Weithorn

**Professor of Law, Harry & Lillian Hastings Research Chair at UC Hastings College of the Law
San Francisco, CA, US**

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Biography

Professor Weithorn joined the full-time UC Hastings faculty in 2001. She received the UC Hastings Foundation Faculty Scholarship Award in 2002, and the Rutter Award for Teaching Excellence in 2007. Professor Weithorn received her J.D. from Stanford Law School where she served as President of the Stanford Law Review and was elected to the Order of the Coif. After graduating, she clerked for the Honorable Joseph T. Sneed III of the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit. Professor Weithorn also has a Ph.D. in Psychology (University of Pittsburgh). Her work integrates perspectives in law and science, with special emphasis on legal policies affecting family relationships or vulnerable or underserved groups (such as children and persons with mental and emotional disabilities). Professor Weithorn's scholarship includes topics such as the law and ethics of informed consent for treatment and research; legal responses to parental vaccine refusal; policies affecting youth crossing child welfare, juvenile justice and/or mental health system boundaries; developmental neuroscience and child protection policy reform; intellectual disability and the death penalty; California's Proposition 8 and same-sex marriage. She also serves as a consultant to the Ethics and Policy Core at the Center for AIDS Prevention, UCSF Medical Center. Prior to joining the faculty at UC Hastings, Professor Weithorn held positions at the University of Virginia (Institute of Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy and Department of Psychology). She served as a fellow at Stanford's Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, worked on federal mental health policy at the National Mental Health Association in Washington, D.C., and consulted with the Judicial Council of California and other agencies on child and family policy issues. Professor Weithorn also served on the Ethics Committee of the American Psychological Association and chaired several APA divisional committees relating to children and the law.

Expertise

Education/Learning

Areas of Expertise

Bioethics and the Law, Criminal Law, Family Law, Mental Health Law, Social Science and Law, Children and the Law

Affiliations

American Journal of Orthopsychiatry : Editorial Board, Psychology Public Policy and Law (Journal) : Editorial Board, American Psychological Association : Fellow

Event Appearances

Mandatory Vaccination Policies: Legal Justifications and Challenges
San Francisco, CA

The Evolution of Legal Policies Governing Vaccination of Children: Controversies and Challenges
Conference on Children's Health, Mental Health and the Law

Children's Mental Health and the Mental Health "Non-System?"
Conference on Children's Health, Mental Health and the Law

Same-Sex Marriage and US Supreme Court: Oral Argument and Panel Discussion
UCSF-UC Hastings Consortium

Parental Refusal of Childhood Vaccinations: Trends, Consequences and Legal Policy Responses,
UCSF-UC Hastings Consortium

Education

Stanford Law School
J.D. Law

University of Pittsburgh
Ph.D. Psychology

Hamilton (Kirkland) College
B.A. Psychology

Accomplishments

President (Editor-in-Chief)
Served as President of the Stanford Law Review

Rutter Award for Teaching Excellence
Awarded by University of California - Hastings College of the Law.

Faculty Scholarship Award
Awarded by UC Hastings Foundation.

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