



# LEGAL SEMINAR BOOKING FORM

## CONTACT AND COVID-19

Date: Thursday 5 November 2020

Venue: Online Platform – to be confirmed

Cost: £45.00 + VAT

Time: 1.30pm – 4.30pm

This year's legal conference scheduled for June 2020 was going to focus on Contact but was postponed due to Covid-19. We have therefore organised a virtual Seminar to look at how practice and case law surrounding contact have been affected by the pandemic and subsequent lockdown.

We are delighted to announce that both Lady Wise and Professor Beth Neil will speak at this event. There will be an opportunity to not only hear their views about this but also ask questions and take part in group discussions. Numbers will be limited therefore we would encourage early booking.

### SPEAKERS

#### **The Honourable Lady Wise QC**

Lady Wise was appointed Judge of the Supreme Courts of Scotland in February 2013. She is a graduate of the University of Aberdeen and of McGill University, Montreal, Canada. She qualified as a Solicitor in 1989 and worked for Morton Fraser from 1989 to 1992, practising in general civil litigation.

She called to the Bar in 1993, working in civil litigation and specialising in family law. In 2005 she became a QC. She was a member of the Disciplinary Tribunal of the Faculty of Advocates from 2005 and between 2008 and 2013 sat part time as a Temporary Judge in the Court of Session.

Lady Wise was Chair of the Advocates Family Law Association and of the Family Law Arbitration Group Scotland prior to her elevation to the bench. Since 2016 she has been a Judge of the Employment Appeal Tribunal and a member of the Judicial Appointments Board, Scotland.

#### **Professor Beth Neil**

Beth Neil is Professor of Social Work, Director of Research and Chair of the Research Ethics Committee for the School of Social Work at the University of East Anglia, Norwich. Before joining the Department as a Ph.D. student in 1996 (progressing to lecturer in 1999 and senior lecturer in 2007) she worked for several years in social care in social work. She teaches on qualifying and post-qualifying social work programmes and supervises Ph.D. students.

Professor Neil has been at the forefront of research into adoption for over 20 years and has directed a number of funded research projects in this field. Her research has contributed to policy and practice affecting adopted children and their birth and adoptive families.

Two of her most acclaimed major studies are: the longitudinal "Contact after Adoption" study which has followed a group of adoptive birth families over 18 years from 1996 to 2013, and the "Researching Adoption Support" study which explored support services for birth relatives, and agency support for direct contact arrangements (2005-2010).

She is currently directing an ESRC project "From care to adoption to parenting" exploring the experiences of adoptees who become parents, and adoptive parents who become grandparents.

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### DELEGATE INFORMATION

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### CANCELLATION POLICY

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| After receipt of written confirmation of place allocated      | 25% of fee  |
| Cancellation between two and four weeks prior to the date     | 50% of fee  |
| Cancellation between one week and two weeks prior to the date | 75% of fee  |
| Cancellation within one week of the date                      | 100% of fee |

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