

SEAN HANNON WILLIAMS

F. Scott Baldwin Research Professor in Law • University of Texas School of Law
727 E. Dean Keeton St. • Austin, TX 78705 • (512) 232-1353 • swilliams@law.utexas.edu

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

University of Texas School of Law. Austin, TX

<i>F. Scott Baldwin Research Professor in Law</i>	2017-present
<i>Professor of Law</i>	2013-2017
<i>Assistant Professor</i>	2008-2013

Courses:

Torts, Family Law, Behavioral Law and Economics, Contracts

Most Recent Teaching Evaluations (Professor rating/Course rating):

Torts (4.95/4.95), Family Law (4.85/4.69), Behavioral Law and Economics (5.0/5.0).

Committee Service:

Appointments Committee (2023-24, 2017-18, 2014); Budget Committee (2022-23, 2018-19); Exam Review Committee (2019); Curriculum Committee (2019-20, 2015-16); Hargrave Society Faculty Advisor (2017-18); Colloquium Committee (2016-17); Student Life Task Force (2014-15); Rules and Standards Committee (2012-13); Computer Services Committee (2011-12, 2010-11); Sheffield Room Committee (2011-12); Emerging Scholars Program Fellowship (2008-09, 2009-10 Co-Chair).

Duke University School of Law. Durham, NC

Fall 2021

Visiting Professor: Contracts

Harvard Law School. Cambridge, MA

2007-2008

Research Fellow, Center on Lawyers & the Professional Services Industry

Harvard Law School. Cambridge, MA

2005-2007

Climenko Fellow and Lecturer on Law

EDUCATION

University of Chicago Law School. JD

High Honors, Order of the Coif, *University of Chicago Law Review*

Beale Prize for Outstanding Written Work, Best Advocate Award for Appellate Brief

Haverford College. BA, Sociology

PUBLICATIONS

FAMILY LAW (with June Carbone & Rachel Rebouché) (8th edition forthcoming)

Privatized Pluralism: Branded Relationship Contracts as Non-Governmental Family Law, __ HARV. L. & POL. REV. __ (forthcoming 2024).

Sacred Children, Taboo Tradeoffs, and Distorted Discourses, __ MICH. J. L. REF. __ (forthcoming 2024).

Divorcing Your Parents, 57 U.C. DAVIS L. REV. 665 (2023).

Conscription, Consent, and the Meaning of “Family”, 72 WASH. U. J. L. & POL. 103 (2023).

DNA Dilemmas, 40 YALE L. & POL’Y REV. 536 (2022).

Reviewed by Ayelet Blecher-Prigat in *The Journal of Things We Like (Lots)*, *Parentage, Identity and DNA*, JOTWELL (May 25, 2022), at <https://family.jotwell.com/parentage-identity-and-dna/> (“DNA Dilemmas [is] a bold example of scholarship that goes beyond criticism and lays out a concrete normative proposal for reform. It sheds new and refreshing light on debates in existing scholarship on parentage and ... it forces us to revisit and rethink normative conventions on these issues.”).

Advice, 2021 UTAH. L. REV. 385 (2021).

AI Advice: The Irony of Big Data Disclosures and the New Advice Paradigm, 46 FLA. ST. L. REV. 761 (2021).

Gossip and Gore: A Ghoulish Journey into a Philosophical Thicket, 116 MICH. L. REV. 1187 (2018).

Divorce All the Way Down: Local Voice and Family Law’s Democratic Deficit, 98 B.U. L. REV. 579 (2018).

Reviewed by Kaipo Matsumura in *The Journal of Things We Like (Lots)*, *Family Law’s Democratic Foundations*, JOTWELL (May 25, 2018), at <https://family.jotwell.com/family-laws-democratic-foundations/>

Wildflowers in the Swamp: Local Rules and Local Family Law, 65 DRAKE L. REV. 781 (2017).

Sex in the City, 43 FORDHAM URBAN L. J. 1107 (2016).

Reviewed by Richard Briffault.

Dead Children, 67 ALABAMA L. REV. 739 (2016).

Probability Errors: Over-Optimism, Ambiguity Aversion, and the Certainty Effect, in THE OXFORD HANDBOOK ON BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS AND THE LAW (2014).

Statistical Children, 30 YALE J. REG. 63 (2013).

Lost Life and Life Projects, 87 INDIANA L. J. 1745 (2012).

Reviewed by Gregory Keating in *The Journal of Things We Like (Lots)*, *Redressing the Harm of Death*, JOTWELL (Sept. 27, 2013), at <http://torts.jotwell.com/redressing-the-harm-of-death/>

Self-Altering Injury, 96 CORNELL L. REV. 535 (2011).

Sticky Expectations, 84 NOTRE DAME L. REV. 733 (2009).

Postnuptial Agreements, 2007 WIS. L. REV. 827 (2007).

The Parallel Trends of Increased Adult Content in Mainstream Media and Harder-Core Pornography: A Tale of Market Failure?, in 1 CARCERAL NOTEBOOKS 61 (Bernard Harcourt ed., 2005).

Comment: Non-Prevailing Parties Who Bring Successful Actions under Consumer Protection Statutes, 71 U. CHI. L. REV. 311-332 (2004).

PRESENTATIONS

Branded Relationship Contracts, Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 2023

Taboo Children, Taboo Trades Podcast, July 2022

Divorcing Your Parents, Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 2022

DNA Dilemmas, Wake Forest Law School Faculty Colloquium, Fall 2022

DNA Dilemmas, U.N.C. Law School Faculty Colloquium, Fall 2022

Red Prenups, Blue Prenups, Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 2021

Identity Interests in Birth Certificates, Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 2020

More Legal Implications of NPE Discoveries, Not Parent Expected (NPE) Conference, March 2020

Legal Ramifications of Discovering You are not the Genetic Child of one of your Parents, Not Parent Expected (NPE) Conference, April 2019

Forum Shopping in Divorce, Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 2018

Marketing Marriage, Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 2017

Unconscious Bias in the Courtroom, Harris County Bench/Bar Conference, May 2015

Sex (and Money) in the City, Georgetown Law School Faculty Colloquium, November 2014

Dead Children: Parental Investments in Child Safety and Tort Damages, Indiana University Maurer School of Law Faculty Colloquium, October 2014

Judicial Decision-Making, Harris County District Judges Conference, August 2014

Parental Investments in Child Safety and Tort Damages, University of Washington, Olin Business School, February 2014

Local Family Law, University of Virginia Law School Faculty Colloquium, October 2013

Local Family Law, St. Louis University Law School Faculty Colloquium, September 2013

Local vs. State Control over Family Law, IASJF, The Jurisprudence of Family Relations: Privacy, Autonomy, and Whether States Should Regulate Family Relations, June 2013

Probability Errors, LAMB Conference: Behavioral Law and Economics: Substance and Methodology, Notre Dame Law School, April 2013

Local Divorce Law, Faculty Conference, Arizona State University, March 2013

What's a Child Worth?, Law & Society, June 2012

Statistical Children, Junior Faculty Conference, Arizona State University, March 2012

Valuing Children in Tort Law, Emerging Family Law Scholars Conference, June 2011

Wrongful Death, Life Projects, and Individual Justice, Junior Faculty Conference for South-Western Law Schools, Arizona State University, March 2011

Happiness, Harm and Self-Altering Injury, Junior Faculty Conference for South-Western Law Schools, Arizona State University, March 2010

Same-Sex Child-Rearing Research and Theory, A Federalist Society debate with Maggie Gallagher, University of Texas School of Law, January 2009

OTHER RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015 AALS Mid-Year Meeting: Shifting Foundations in Family Law. June 2015
Planning Committee. Designed and organized conference as part of five-member committee.

Concurring Opinions. Dec. 2014
Guest Blogger.

Law Preview. 2013-2019
Lecturer. Taught Contracts to students about to start law school.

BarBri. 2012-2020
Lecturer. Taught Family Law and Community Property for the Texas Bar Exam.

Judge Cynthia Holcomb Hall. U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit 2004-2005
Law Clerk.

BAR MEMBERSHIP

California