

FAMILY LAW DEBATE:

Is Family Justice Fit for Purpose?

TUESDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2013 at 6:00pm

**7 DIALS CLUB, Covent Garden Community Centre
42 Earlham Street, London WC2H 9LA**

You are cordially invited to join us for a lively and provocative debate about the Family Justice System with the following individuals:

Jerry Bull: Jerry is a Director at Atkins Hope Solicitors. He qualified as a solicitor in 1984. Jerry specialises in the area of Family law. He has Higher Rights of Audience in civil matters. He is a member of the Children Panel and the Law Society's Children Law Sub-Committee.

Peter Coutts: Peter works as a Child Care Solicitor in the London Borough of Islington. He qualified as a solicitor in 1981 and he is a member of the Children Panel (Local Authority). Peter worked in private practice before he joined the employment of the London Borough of Islington.

Barbara Hopkin: Barbara is one of the founding partners of Hopkin Murray Beskine and is now a Director of the company. She has been a solicitor for over 30 years and a long-term member of the Children Panel. Barbara is an assessor for the children panel and an executive member and press officer for the Association of Lawyers for Children.

Nicola Jones-King: Nicola is a partner with McMillan Williams. She has been a member of the Children Panel since 1997. She is a co-chair and a member of the ALC Legal Aid Sub-Committee & Private Law and CAFCASS, Family Justice Centre Management Team, and Chair of the Legal Providers Group in Croydon.

Caroline Little: Caroline is a consultant at Hanne & Co. in London and is a specialist child care Solicitor Advocate. She has been on the Law Society Children Panel since 1985. Caroline assesses and interviews applicants to the Children Panel. She is a member of the executive committee of the Association of Lawyers for Children. Caroline also sits on the Safeguarding and Voice of the Child sub-committees of the Family Justice Council.

Joy Merriam: Joy is a solicitor advocate at McCormacks Law Ltd. with over thirty years experience and higher rights in both civil and criminal law. Joy won the Law Society's Solicitor Advocate of the Year award for 2013. She is the chair of the Law Society's Access to Justice Committee, a Law Society Council member for criminal defence, and a member of the Criminal Law Committee.

For Information and R.S.V.P. please contact:

Bridget Thompson: bridgetthompson@osbornes.net

VyVy Lewis: vyvy.lewis@edwardsduthie.com

Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

**1.5 CPD Points – Accredited by the Solicitors Regulation Authority
Free Event. All are welcome to attend.**