

Family Law

Friday 18 August 2023

Session 10 – 11.55am – 12.55pm

Blurred lines: The convergence of family law and child protection

There is an increasing emergence of child protection issues in matters before the Family Court and Federal Circuit Court of Australia, as recognised by innovations such as the Evatt List and the Lighthouse Project. In many FCFCOA registries matters involving family violence, mental illness and also substance abuse are now common. As the lines between the jurisdictions blur, what can family law practitioners learn from their colleagues in the Children's Court? Join Elanor Canning as she examines the increasing convergence of different areas of law within singular matters.

Meet the speaker

Elanor Canning, Senior Solicitor, Legal Aid New South Wales

Elanor Canning has been a solicitor in the Family Litigation team at Legal Aid for twenty years, specialising in care and protection matters in the Children's Court, District Court and Supreme Court. She also appears as an Independent Children's Lawyer in the Federal Court and Federal Circuit Court of Australia. Elanor is an Accredited Specialist in Children's Law and is the chair of the Children's Law Specialist Accreditation Advisory Committee. In 2021 Elanor was the recipient of the Legal Aid Children's Lawyer of Year Award for services to clients at the intersection of the care and juvenile justice legal systems. Elanor has an interest in the provision of trauma informed legal representation to children and families in the care and protection and family law systems and the emerging parallels between these two areas.