

TANYA ASIM COOPER
Pepperdine Caruso School of Law
24255 Pacific Coast Highway
Malibu, CA 90263
(310) 506-4646
tanya.cooper@pepperdine.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Pepperdine Caruso School of Law

Clinical Professor of Law, 2023 – Present
Associate Clinical Professor of Law, 2020 - 2023
Assistant Clinical Professor of Law, 2015 – 2020
Director, Restoration and Justice Clinic, 2015 – Present

University of Alabama School of Law

Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education, 2012 – 2015
Director, Domestic Violence Law Clinic, 2012 – 2015

University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law

Clinical Instructor, 2008 – 2012
LL.M. Fellow, 2010 – 2012

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Clinical Legal Education, Critical Studies, Gender Violence, Litigation

SELECTED AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Faculty Belonging Award, Pepperdine University Caruso School of Law, 2021-2022
Harris Manchester College Fellowship, Oxford University, 2018
Cross-School Collaborative Research Program Grants, Pepperdine University, 2021, 2018, 2016
Community-Based Research Program Grants, Pepperdine University, 2021, 2018, 2015

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Racial Justice, in CHILD WELFARE LAW AND PRACTICE: REPRESENTING CHILDREN, PARENTS, AND STATE AGENCIES IN ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND DEPENDENCY CASES (National Association of Counsel for Children 2022) (Josh Gupta-Kagan et al. eds. 4th ed.).

#SororityToo, 2020 MICH. ST. L. REV. 355 (2020).

The Clinic Effect, Clinical Law Prof Blog, May 13, 2015

Implicit Bias, A Listserv Discussion & Compilation of Resources, Clinical Law Prof Blog, October 29, 2015

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[*For Clinicians, "Happiness is the Truth"*](#), Clinical Law Prof Blog, August 12, 2014

[*Practicing Race Theory*](#), Clinical Law Prof Blog, April 28, 2014

Racial Bias in American Foster Care: The National Debate, 97 MARQ. L. REV. 215 (2013).

Race is Evidence of Parenting in America: Another Civil Rights Story in CIVIL RIGHTS IN AMERICAN LAW, HISTORY, AND POLITICS, 103 (Cambridge University Press 2014) (Austin Sarat, ed.).

Corbis & Copyright? Is Bill Gates Trying to Corner the Market on Public Domain Art?, 16 INTELL. PROP. L. BULL. 1 (2011).

Sacrificing the Child to Convict the Defendant: Secondary Traumatization of Child Witnesses by Prosecutors, their Inherent Conflict of Interest, and the Need for Child Witness Counsel, 9 CARDOZO PUB. L. POL'Y & ETHICS J. 239 (2011).

SELECTED MEDIA COMMENTARY AND PRESENTATIONS

Pepperdine Caruso School of Law Conference on Christian Legal Thought from the Margins, November 2025, *Domestic Violence in the American Christian Church*

University Church of Christ Malibu, December 2024, *Shining the Light on Domestic Violence*

DC Children's Law Center, August 2024, *In re Ta.L.: The History, Background, and Today's Practice*

Association of American Law Schools Conference, January 2024, *Discussing Polarizing Topics in a Polarizing Time: Why Can't We All Just Get Along?*

Association of American Law Schools Clinical Conference, April 2023, *Open Conversations: Creating a Culture of Hope through Dialogue and Discourse in Contentious Times*

New Clinicians Conference, Clinical Legal Education Association, April 2023, *Addressing Race in All Aspects of Clinical Teaching*

St. Luke Lutheran Church, November 2022, *Making a Difference for Domestic Violence Survivors*

Association of American Law Schools Clinical Conference, May 2022, *Thinking Outside the Carceral System in Clinics Addressing Gender-Based Violence*

Pepperdine Caruso School of Law, April 2022, *Race and the Law: Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence*

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Lakeland University Center for Faith, Justice and Ethics, April 2021, *Legal and Christian Responses to Human Trafficking*

Berkman-Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University, February 2021, *Marginalized Women, Technology, COVID-19, and Intimate Partner Violence: Is there a vaccine for our pandemic?*

Woodland Hills Community Church, January 2021 (4 sessions), *Shining the Light on Domestic Violence*

Ipsix: A Podcast on Legal Scholarship, December 2019, [*Tanya Asim Cooper on Sororities & Sexual Violence*](#)

Feminist Legal Theory Conference, University of Baltimore School of Law, April 2019, *#SororityToo: Breaking the Code of Silence about Relationship Violence in Collegiate Greek Life*

Andrews University, March 2019, *Rise Up Against Abuse*, [*Does the Bible Justify Intimate Partner Abuse?; Domestic Violence 101*](#)

Association of American Law Schools Clinical Conference, May 2018, *Teaching the Whole Lawyer: Deliberate, Mindful and Culturally Conscious Professional Identity Formation*

In Search of Sanctuary: Strengthening the Church's Response to Intimate Partner Violence, Pepperdine University, October 2017, Lead Conference Organizer, and Panel Convener and Presenter, *Does the Bible Justify Intimate Partner Violence?*

International Meeting on Law and Society, Feminist Legal Theory Collaborative Research Network, June 2017, Co-Presenter (with Roslyn M. Satchel), *Feminist Legal Theories and Theologies on Domestic Violence in Christian Churches* (work in progress)

40th National Child Welfare, Juvenile, and Family Law Conference, August 2017, *Race and Child Welfare: Current Trends, Critical Discussions & Effective Resources*

Access to Justice for Veterans: Coordinated Responses of a Grateful Nation, Pepperdine University School of Law, November 2016, Plenary Panelist, *Domestic Violence and Vet Courts*

Christian Scholars Conference, June 2016, Convener: Domestic Violence in the American Christian Church: Current Trends & Effective Resources and presented *Domestic Violence in the Christian Church: Law, Current Trends & Effective Resources* (work in progress)

University General Counsel Conference, March 2016, *Breaking the Code of Silence About Relationship Violence in Greek Life on Campus*

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Shatter the Silence of Relationship Violence, University of Alabama, November 2014, Panelist:
Dating Violence in Greek Life

Student Life, Relationships and the Law: Confronting Domestic Violence in Higher Education,
Pepperdine University School of Law, October 2014, Facilitator & Panelist: *Breaking the Code of
Silence About Domestic Violence in Greek Life on Campus*

Christian Scholars Conference, June 2014, Panelist: *Racial Bias in the Church & Its Role in
American Foster Care*

Challenging Authority: A Symposium in Honor of Derrick Bell, University of Pittsburgh School
of Law, March 2014, *Stories of Bias in American Foster Care*

Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, January 2014, A2A (Access to Art) and
IP Law Panelist (competitively selected), *Diminished Access to Public Domain Art or Corbis
and Copyright? Is Bill Gates Trying to Corner the Market on Public Domain Art?*

Women's Resource Center, University of Alabama, October 2013, New Police Officer Training,
Presenter: *Domestic Violence Law & Practice in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama*

Racial Justice Initiative, TimeBanks USA, August 2011, Panelist, *Dismantling Structural Racism
in the Foster Care & Juvenile Delinquency Systems: Homes, not Institutions – Justice for the
Next Generation*

American Bar Association National Conference on Children and the Law, July 2011, Panelist,
Counseling Child Clients: A Critical Component of Successful and Ethical Representation

American Bar Association, Center on Children and the Law, July 2011, Workshop Facilitator:
Working with Child Advocates, Improving Representation in the Child Welfare System

Mid-Atlantic Clinical Theory and Practice Workshop, January 2010, *Protecting Child Witnesses
When Prosecutors Don't*

American Bar Association, Center on Children & the Law, August 2009, Presenter: *Effective
Ways to Advocate for Non-Resident Fathers Outside of the Courtroom*

UDC-TV, Sound Advice, interviewed on representing parents in child welfare cases, December
15, 2008

SELECTED LAW SCHOOL SERVICE

Caruso Law Belonging Council, 2015 – Present

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Chair, Global Programs & Student Life, Committee, 2025-2026
University Diversity Council, 2019 – 2023
Curriculum Committee, 2022 – 2024
Clinical Appointments Committee, 2014 – 2015
Honor Council, 2013 – 2015
Public Interest Committee, 2013 – 2015

SELECTED COMMUNITY SERVICE

Secretary, Clinical Legal Education Association, 2024 – Present
Newsletter Editor, Clinical Legal Education Association, 2012 – 2019
Contributing Editor, Clinical Law Prof Blog, 2014 – 2019
Acting Chair, Domestic Violence Task Force of Tuscaloosa County, 2013 – 2015

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

The National SEED (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) Project, Wellesley Centers for Women, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA

National SEED Project Leader, August 2018 (based on immersive experiential training)

The University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law, Washington, DC

LL.M., May 2012

Concentration: Clinical Education, Social Justice, and Systems Change

HIV-AIDS/UDC Legal Clinic: Administered Parent Representation Project grant

Selected cases: *In re Ta.L.*, 149 A.3d 1060 (D.C. 2016) (en banc) (evidentiary hearing required in neglect proceedings); *In re Ang.P.*, 71 A.3d 713 (D.C. 2013) (neglect adjudication reversed); *In re A.O.T.*, 10 A.3d 160 (D.C. 2010) (termination of parental rights and adoption reversed); *In re N.R.*, 41 A.3d 1219 (D.C. 2012); *In re D.W.*, 137 Daily Wash. L. Rptr. 1513 (D.C. Sup. Ct. 2009) (neglect disposition remanded).

The National Association of Counsel for Children, Aurora, CO

Certified Child Welfare Law Specialist, May 2009 (based on examination and application)

American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, DC

J.D., *cum laude*, May 2002

Honors: Laura Reckman Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Dean's citation for the highest grade in the Glushko-Samuelson Intellectual Property Law Clinic and Law & Visual Arts

Activities: *Journal of Gender, Social Policy, & the Law*, Line Editor

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Boston University, Boston, MA

M.A., Psychology, May 1997 (GPA 3.82)
B.A., Psychology, May 1996

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Children's Law Center, Washington, DC, 2003 – 2008

Staff Attorney, Guardian *ad litem* & Health Access Projects: Represented indigent children in abuse, neglect, adoption, guardianship, and custody cases. Represented parents in domestic violence, special education, custody, housing, and public benefits cases. Represented child witnesses in criminal child abuse cases. Advocated for neglected children in juvenile delinquency and special education matters. Conducted legal research, wrote pleadings, argued motions, and litigated trials before Superior Court judges. Trained attorneys on child witness representation and Guardian *ad litem* practice.

Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, DC

Student Attorney for the Glushko-Samuelson Intellectual Property Clinic, 2001 – 2002: Represented indigent individuals and non-profit organizations in various intellectual property matters including copyright litigation, trademark prosecutions, and patent application filings.

Dean's Fellow for the Legal Methods Program, 2000 – 2001: Taught legal research, writing, and citation to first-year law students.

Center for Social Development and Education, UMass Boston, Boston, MA, 1997 – 1998

Senior Research Assistant (Promoted from Research Assistant): Developed federally-funded social skills intervention program for children with cognitive delays. Prepared grant proposals and publications.

BAR MEMBERSHIPS

The State Bar of California, *admitted December 2002*
The District of Columbia Bar, *admitted July 2005 (inactive)*
Alabama State Bar, *admitted 2013 – 2015 (inactive)*