

PAYNE | HICKS | BEACH

# AN EXAMINATION OF MODERN FAMILY CREATION AND NEW FAMILY FORMS IN 2022

Tuesday 20th September 2022

Hosted by

PAYNE | HICKS | BEACH

In association with





# AN EXAMINATION OF MODERN FAMILY CREATION AND NEW FAMILY FORMS IN 2022

The Ashworth Centre, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3QG

## PROGRAMME

5.30-5.50pm	<b>Registration and networking</b>
5.50 pm	<b>Welcome</b> Sarah Williams, Payne Hicks Beach
5.55 pm	<b>Access to justice</b> Caroline Artis, Chair of the Trustees, Support Through Court
6.00pm	<b>Parents and Children in New Family Forms: Findings and Reflections on 40 Years of Research</b> Professor Susan Golombok, University of Cambridge Centre for Family Research
6.30pm	<b>Comparative European approaches to parentage following surrogacy</b> Sarah Williams, Payne Hicks Beach Delphine Eskenazi and Maria Valentin, Libra Avocats Vicky de'Sanna, BSVA Studio Legale Associato
6.50pm	<b>A view from the Hague</b> Rachael Kelsey, President Elect of the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL), SKO Family Law Specialists
7.00pm	<b>On the Way to Gilead in a Post-Roe v. Wade America?</b> Jill Hersh, Fellow of the IAFL, Hersh FamilyLaw Practice
7.30pm	<b>Closing remarks</b> Rebecca Cockcroft, Co-Head of Family, Payne Hicks Beach
7.30 - 9.30pm	<b>Drinks reception at the MCR Restaurant &amp; Bar, Lincoln's Inn</b>

## SPEAKERS



### **Sarah Williams, Payne Hicks Beach**

Sarah specialises in international and domestic surrogacy matters and cases involving children conceived following artificial insemination. Sarah also has extensive experience in complex children law matters, often with an international dimension, as well a practice concerning vulnerable adults. Sarah spent the first decade of her career as a practising Barrister representing parents, children, Guardians, Local Authorities and the Official Solicitor. Sarah is a member of the American Bar Association, Association of Lawyers for Children, International Bar Association and the Franco-British Lawyers Society.

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### **Professor Susan Golombok**

Professor Susan Golombok, former Director of the University of Cambridge Centre for Family Research, has pioneered research on families with lesbian mothers, gay fathers, transgender parents, single parents by choice, and families created by assisted reproductive technologies including IVF, sperm donation, egg donation and surrogacy. Her research has challenged commonly held assumptions about these families and contributed to policy and legislation on assisted reproduction and the family nationally and internationally. Her most recent book is *We Are Family: What Really Matters for Parents and Children*.

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### **Delphine Eskenazi, Libra Avocats**

Delphine Eskenazi is the founding partner of the lawfirm “Libra Avocats”. She is currently specialized in international family law, in order to advise private clients on their complex family issues. She is an active member of the International Academy of Family Lawyers, the Family Law Section of the New York State Bar Association and the International Law Association. She has written many articles in the area of international family law. She has also been invited to be a lecturer in many international conferences on family law, and she is a speaker every year for the session relating to international family law at the French Etats-Généraux du Droit de la Famille.

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### **Maria Valentin, Libra Avocats**

Maria Valentin has been admitted to the Barcelona bar and the Paris bar. She joined Libra avocats (Paris) in 2017, becoming an associate in 2019. She has specialized in international family law, regularly working in complex international divorces (amicable and contentious), as well as proceedings relating to children. She is a Vice-Chair of the International Family Law Committee (American Bar Association, ILS) and a member of AIJUDEFA (Young lawyers committee).

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### **Vicky de'Sanna, BSVA Studio Legale Associato**

Maria Ludovica (Vicky) is a dual qualified English solicitor and Italian avvocato. After practising family law in London for almost twenty years, at the end of 2021 Vicky returned to Milan, Italy, where she joined BSVA as a partner. Vicky's main basis is currently in Milan, although she continues to retain a practice in London. She advises both on Italian and English family law. Vicky has written articles on the status of surrogacy under Italian law.

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### **Rachael Kelsey, SKO Family Law Specialists**

Rachael is a Scottish Family Lawyer. She is the only ‘Hall of Fame’ lawyer in Scotland in the Legal 500 and in her third term on the Family Law Sub-Committee of the Scottish Civil Justice Council, having been appointed by the Lord President. Rachael is President Elect of the International Academy of Family Lawyers. She has represented the IAFL at the Hague Conference on Private International Law Parentage and Surrogacy Project since 2019. Most of her work in surrogacy and parentage focusses on jurisdictional issues.

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### **Jill Hersh, Hersh FamilyLaw Practice**

Jill Hersh, a California Certified Family Law Specialist, is the managing attorney at the Hersh FamilyLaw Practice, a mediation, transactional, trial, and appellate law firm specializing in domestic and international, complex financial and custody issues, including Hague and non-Hague Convention disputes. A Fellow of the AAML and the IAFL, Jill received the 2006 California Lawyer of the Year Award for her work from trial up to the California Supreme Court advancing rights of same sex parents who conceive using assisted reproduction. Jill's published opinions, articles and C.V. are available at [www.HFLP.com](http://www.HFLP.com).

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## SURROGACY, ADOPTION, FERTILITY AND MODERN FAMILY

The law in these fields is complex, rapidly evolving and requires highly specialized advice.

At Payne Hicks Beach we provide a bespoke service with the utmost sensitivity and discretion.

We are experts in the areas of surrogacy and adoption, assisted reproduction, legal parentage, disputes relating to the legal status of the child, the parent(s), parental responsibility, contact, and the legal implications and disputes that can arise upon the changing or redefining of an individual's gender identity.



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**Payne Hicks Beach LLP**

10 New Square Lincoln's Inn London WC2A 3QG

Tel: 020 7465 4300 Fax: 020 7465 4400 [www.phb.co.uk](http://www.phb.co.uk)

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