

LAURA J. LEDERER, J.D.

Brief Biography

Laura J. Lederer received her B.A. *magna cum laude* in comparative religions from the University of Michigan. After 10 years in philanthropy as director of community and social concerns at a private foundation, she continued her education at the University of San Francisco Law School and DePaul College of Law and received her juris doctorate in June 1994. She was the recipient of the University of San Francisco Alumni Women's Association scholarship in 1991. In 1992 she was Mansfield Fellow of Law at DePaul College of Law. In 1997, she received the Gustavus Meyers Center for Study of Human Rights Annual Award for Outstanding Work on Human Rights for her work on harmful speech issues. In 2008 she received a Distinguished Service Award from the U.S. State Department. She has been nominated by the University of Michigan College of Literature Science and Arts to receive their Humanitarian Service Award in September 2009.

Lederer founded and directed The Protection Project at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in 1997. In 2000, she moved The Protection Project to Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). She is adjunct professor of law at Georgetown Law Center, where she has taught for six years, including the first full course on international trafficking in persons offered at a law school. For five years she served as Senior Advisor on Trafficking in Persons to Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs, Paula J. Dobriansky. She was Senior Director of Global Projects on Trafficking in Persons in the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the U.S. Department of State. For seven years, she held the Executive Directorship of the Senior Policy Operating Group on Trafficking in Persons, a high level interagency policy group that staffed the President's cabinet-level Inter-agency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons.

She is the editor of *Take Back the Night*, published in 1980 by William and Morrow (hardcover) and Bantam Books (paperback), and *The Price We Pay: The Case Against Racist Speech, Hate Propaganda, and Pornography*, published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in 1995, and the author of numerous articles on trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children.

Currently she is Vice President for Policy and Planning for Global Centurion, a new NGO dedicated to fighting child sex trafficking.

LAURA J. LEDERER
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EDUCATION AND AWARDS

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan
B.A. Magna cum laude; Comparative Religions, 1975

University of San Francisco Law School (1991) and DePaul College of Law
J.D. June, 1994

Nominee, University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and Arts Humanitarian Service Award
(to be awarded, September, 2009)

Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools
Adele Herwitz Scholar, 2008

Distinguished Service Awards
United States Department of State, 2005, 2008

Gustavus Meyers Center for the Study of Human Rights in North America Annual Award
for Outstanding Work on Human Rights, 1997

Mansfield Fellow of Law, 1992
Minneapolis, Minnesota

DePaul University Women's Alumni Association Award, 1991

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Vice President for Policy and Planning, Global Centurion, 2009 - present

Responsible for developing current operating and long-term programs and planning; initiating and overseeing research on the demand side of human trafficking, including the first comprehensive collection of domestic and international case law; advising the President on policy considerations related to combating child sex trafficking; serving as primary liaison between Global Centurion and other NGOs; spokesperson at public events, including conferences, academic institutions, and community organizations; Supervisory responsibility for staff, students, and interns in East Coast office.

Adjunct Professor of Law, Georgetown Law Center, 2001 – present

Teaches LLM and J.D. course on trafficking in persons covering U.S. law; foreign national law; international treaties and conventions; the scope and nature of the problem, such as trafficking routes and patterns; and related issues including rule of law; corruption, money laundering, terrorism, transnational criminal activity.

PAST EMPLOYMENT

Senior Advisor on Trafficking, Office of Global Affairs, US Department of State, November, 2002 – January, 2009

Advised the Under Secretary for Global Affairs on policy considerations, programs, and plans for trafficking in persons; represented the Under Secretary at high-level national and foreign national meetings; designed and implemented special projects on trafficking such as trafficking and HIV/AIDS; trafficking and adoption; trafficking and international peacekeeping; the public health implications of trafficking, and more; spoke extensively at conferences, seminars, and other gatherings on behalf of the Under Secretary; planned and advised the Under Secretary on State Department role in the President's Inter-agency Task Force on Trafficking (cabinet level task force);

Executive Director, U.S. Government Senior Policy Operating Group on Trafficking 2002- 2009

Directed this U.S. government inter-agency group consisting of senior policy officials from Department of State, Department of Justice, Department of Labor, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Defense, and twelve other U.S. government agencies that play a vital role in addressing trafficking.

Deputy Senior Advisor, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, US Department of State, 2001 – 2002

Advised the Senior Advisor during the creation of the legislatively mandated office that produces the annual Trafficking in Persons Report, runs and international grant-making program, and leads the worldwide diplomatic efforts to stop trafficking.

Director, The Protection Project, 1997-2001

- **Johns Hopkins University
School of Advanced International Studies (1999-2001)**
- **Harvard University (1997-1999)
John F. Kennedy School of Government**

Director of international legal research project entitled "Creating an International Framework for Legislation to Protect Women and Children from Commercial Sexual

Exploitation (“the Protection Project”). Responsible for programs of The Protection Project, including collecting all foreign national laws that addressed trafficking worldwide for a comprehensive database; comparative legal analysis of laws on trafficking and related activities (debt bondage, involuntary servitude, slavery, document fraud, kidnapping); Created and directed GSI mapping program of human trafficking routes and patterns; served as subject expert for US government hearings and study groups on TIP related laws.

**University of Minnesota Law School
Director, Center on Speech, Equality and Harm, 1994-1998**

Director of legal research institute specializing in harmful speech issues, including racist speech, child pornography, religious and ethnic hate speech, and hate propaganda against other historically disenfranchised groups. Primary investigator for international legal research project entitled, “Creating an International Framework for Legislation to Protect Women and Children from Commercial Sexual Exploitation,” March, 1997-2000;

**The L.J. and Mary C. Skaggs Foundation
Oakland, California
Program Director for Community and Social Concerns, 1980-1991**

Responsible for design and implementation of social concerns grant-making programs for this private philanthropic foundation, including a Women’s and Children’s Rights Program; a special two-year International Women’s Decade Fund (1984-1985, Nairobi, Kenya); a three-year statewide program on Chemical Contamination in the State of California; Kids Having Kids, a teen pregnancy prevention program focused on East Oakland; and a program on the Effects of Mass Media on Human Behavior. Also responsible for part of the International grant-making program.

**Program on Studies in Religion, University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Administrative Assistant**

Responsible for managing the office of the newly formed Program on Studies in Religion, for the renowned Near Eastern Studies scholar and Old Testament Professor David Noel Freedman. Assisted in developing an inter-disciplinary program of studies; managed communications systems for Anchor Bible Series editing process; created and helped to maintain small program fund.

PUBLICATIONS

“Trafficking, Procurement and Coercion Legislation: An International Comparative Legal Analysis,” published by Rutgers Transaction Press, Gender Issues, Winter 1999.

National Legislation on International Trafficking in Child Pornography,” National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, U.S. Department of Justice, Spring 1999.

The Price We Pay: The Case Against Racist Speech, Hate Propaganda, and Pornography (ed., with Professor Richard Delgado), Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1996.

“Pornography and Hate Speech as Hate Propaganda,” in Feminist Jurisprudence, Women and the Law; rush, Dowd, Taylor and Munro (eds.); Fred B. Rothman and Company, Littleton, Co.; February 1998.

Take Back the Night: Women on Pornography, William Morrow, 1980 (hardcover); Bantam Books, 1981 (paperback).

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

“Reconciling Freedom of Speech and Equality,” November 1996; Bellagio Conference Center, Rockefeller Foundation, Bellagio, Italy.

“Speech, Equality and Harm,” March 1993, University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, Illinois. Three-day national conference with 50 of the foremost Constitutional scholars, critical race theorists and feminist legal scholars to discuss the constitutional significance of harmful speech and conduct.

SPEECHES AND PAPERS DELIVERED

Committee on the Status of Women, Girls Caucus, United Nations Annual Meeting, March 12, 1998, “Legislation Preventing Trafficking of Children”

National Council of Women, Annual Meeting, March 6, 1998, “Preliminary Findings on International Trafficking Legislation”

UNICEF Child Protection Section, Briefing on Legislation to Protect Children from Commercial Sexual Exploitation, March 12, 1998.

NGO Support Group on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women, Committee on Human Rights, United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, Briefing on Legislation on Trafficking of Women and Children

INTERPOL, November 1997, Legislative and Law Enforcement Efforts to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

White House Internet Online Summit, December 1997, “Preventing and Reducing Child Pornography on the Internet: A Legislative Approach”

NGO Support Group on Sexual Exploitation of Children, September 1997, “Implementation of Article 34 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child”

World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Stockholm, Sweden, August 1996, “The Relationship between National Legislation and International Trafficking in Child Pornography”

Brighton Conference on Violence Against Women, Brighton, England, Nov.1996, “Trafficking in Women and Children: Global Patterns, Legislative Responses”

200 plus speeches delivered during service in U.S. Department of State (Complete list available on request)

ASSOCIATIONS AND SERVICES

Doctors at War Against Trafficking in Persons, Board of Directors, 2009 – present

NOMI Network, Board of Directors, 2009 – present

Hagar USA, Board of Directors, 2009 – present

Renewal Forum, Board of Directors, 2009 – present

Freedom Home, Advisory Board, 2009 – present

Triple S (Stop Sex Slavery) Network, Founder, 2009

SCT (Stop Child Trafficking) Now, Senior Advisor, 2008 – present

Women’s Rights Without Frontiers, Advisory Board, 2009 - present

Global Fund for Women, Advisory Board, 1993- 1998

ECPAT (End Child Prostitution and Trafficking) USA, Board of Directors, 1997 - 2001

Global Fund for Women, Founding Member and Board of Directors, 1988-1992

Council on Foundation Program Committee, 1988-1989

Northern California Grantmakers, 1987-1989

East Bay Funders, Co-founder and Steering Committee member, 1988-1991

White House Peer Review Advisory Committee (under President Ronald Reagan), U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, “Sexual Exploitation and Family Violence,” 1984-1986

National Task Force on Missing Children, U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice, 1985

