

## CLAIRE S. RAJ

University of South Carolina School of Law  
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### CURRENT POSITION

**University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia, SC**

*Associate Professor*

2020 - present

*Assistant Professor*

2015 - 2020

*Visiting Assistant Professor*

2012 – 2013, January 2014 – May 2015

Direct the Education Rights Clinic. Supervise student attorneys in cases involving eligibility for special education services, adequacy of special education and related services, and discipline matters. Teach Special Education Law; Parents, Children and the State; and Interviewing, Counseling, and Negotiation.

### ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

*The Lost Promise of Disability Rights*, 119 MICH.L.REV. 993 (2021).

*The Promise and Peril of Using Disability Law as a Tool for School Reform*, 94 WASH.L.REV. 1831 (2019).

*Coerced Choice: School Vouchers and Students with Disabilities*, 68 EMORY L.J. 1038 (2019).

*Disability, Discipline, and Illusory Student Rights*, 65 UCLA L. REV. 860 (2018).

*Andrew F. 's Unintended Consequences*, 46 J.L. & EDUC. 499 (2017) (co-authored with Emily Suski).

*The Misidentification of Children with Disabilities: A Harm With No Foul*, 48 ARIZ. STATE L.J. 374 (2016).

*The Gap Between Rights and Reality: The Intersection of Language, Disability, and Educational Opportunity*, 87 TEMPLE L. REV. 283 (2015).

### OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

**Howard University School of Law, Washington, DC**

April 2008 – May 2012

*Externship Director & Instructor*

Directed legal externship program and taught seminar on public interest lawyering for students who participate in externship program.

*Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project Coordinator & Instructor*

Supervised second and third year law students who taught constitutional law and juvenile justice at local public high schools. Planned and facilitated moot court competition with high school student participants.

*Equal Justice Program Coordinator*

Coordinated pro bono opportunities for law students. Facilitated partnerships with legal employers interested in supporting Howard public interest law students through fellowships, internships, and donations to the Howard Public Interest Fellowship Fund.

**American University, Washington College of Law (WCL), Washington, DC**

*Assistant Director, Public Interest Specialist* September 2006 – April 2008  
*Office of Career & Professional Development*

Supported and assisted law students with professional interests in the fields of public interest and government work.

*Adjunct Professor, Advanced Externship Seminar* Fall 2007 & Spring 2008

Taught an externship seminar course focused on social justice lawyering, diversity in the legal profession, and professional skills.

**The Children's Law Center, Washington, DC**

*Staff Attorney* November 2004 – September 2006

Represented clients in neglect proceedings before judges in D.C. Superior Court. Prepared and litigated neglect and guardianship trials.

**SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

*The Impacts of Covid-19 on Education Law*, SC Bar Education Law Committee, November 17, 2020 (moderator).

*Child Find: The Latest Thorny Issues*, Special Education Law Symposium, Lehigh University College of Education, June 22, 2020.

*Ethical Issues in Special Education Law*, Education Advocacy CLE, SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center, Columbia, SC, August 9, 2019.

*Trauma as Disability and the Coming Expansion of Disability by Neighborhood*, works-in-progress, Southern Clinical Conference, University of South Carolina School of Law, October 19, 2018.

*Educating Students with Disabilities in the Era of School Choice*, works-in-progress, AALS Clinical Conference, Denver, CO, May 9, 2017.

*Special Education and Educational Rights*, Children's Law Conference, Children's Law Center, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, November 17, 2017.

*Educating Students with Disabilities in the Era of School Choice*, works-in-progress, AALS Clinical Conference, Denver, CO, May 9, 2017.

*The Role of Educational Advocates in Ensuring Educational Access*, Southeastern School Behavioral Health Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC, April 27, 2017.

*Collaborating with Mandatory Reporters*, Southern Clinical Conference, Louisiana State University Paul M. Herbert Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA, October 20, 2017 (panelist).

*Endrew F. v. Douglas County School District: How much education is enough for children with disabilities?* University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia, SC, February 23, 2017.

*Crashing the Party: Teaching Students to Lawyer Where Lawyers Haven't Been*, Southern Clinical Conference, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA, October 15, 2016 (panelist).

*The Intersection of Adolescent Development, Behavior and Disability*, School to Prison Pipeline CLE, Columbia, SC, June 24, 2016.

*The Misidentification of Children with Disabilities: A Harm with No Foul*, School-to-Prison Pipeline in Indian Country Symposium, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, March 27, 2015.

## **EDUCATION**

**Case Western Reserve University School of Law**, Cleveland, OH

*Juris Doctor*, May 2003

**University of Rochester**, Rochester, NY

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, May 2000

Study Abroad: **Institute of Political Science and Economics**, London, England, Spring 1999

Instructed by professors from the London School of Economics

## **BAR ADMITTANCE**

South Carolina (active), District of Columbia (active), Pennsylvania (inactive)