

CHILDREN'S STUDIES 25 (2200): SPECIAL TOPICS:
CHILDREN, GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY
IN NEW YORK STATE

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES
FALL 2010

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GUEST SPEAKER: LAURIE BENSKY
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Laurie Bensky, senior policy analyst at Children's Rights, joined the organization in 2006. Children's Rights is a national advocacy group working to reform failing child welfare systems through class action litigation complemented by substantive policy expertise. Ms. Bensky collaborates with Children's Rights' legal teams throughout the litigation process and has co-authored two reports regarding the New York City child welfare system, *At the Crossroads – Better Infrastructure, Too Few Results* and *The Long Road Home – A Study of Children Stranded in New York City Foster Care*.

Previously, she worked in the Office of Quality Improvement at New York City's Administration for Children's Services while also serving as a consultant for the Center for the Study of Social Policy, where she conducted Quality Service Reviews. She has also worked as a social worker and supervisor at both the Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Practice, in the Bronx, and at St. Joseph Children's Services, formerly in Brooklyn, in the foster care intake department.

Ms. Bensky received her M.S.W. from New York University and her B.A. from the University of Rochester.