

CHILDREN'S STUDIES 3310: Children and the Law

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

FALL 2010

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GUEST SPEAKER: MARGO HIRSCH

Executive Director, Empire State Coalition of Runaway and Homeless Youth

Margo Hirsch is an attorney with admissions to the Bars in New York and New Jersey and serves as Executive Director of the Empire State Coalition of Youth and Family Services, a consortium of organizations and individuals working on behalf of runaway, homeless and street involved youth and their families. Margo began her career as a youth worker over 30 years ago as a counselor in a shelter for abused and/or neglected teenage girls, many of whom had histories of sexual abuse and exploitation. Today, Ms. Hirsch advocates on behalf of homeless, runaway and street-involved youth, among the populations at highest risk of sexual exploitation. She also provides training, technical support and other services for agencies serving the population including training on legal rights, street-based services, and recognizing and understanding the needs of trafficking victims. Her work also included serving as the convener and facilitator of the Rescue and Restore Coalition for the NYC/Metropolitan Area, serving as a member of the NYC Task Force Against Sexual Exploitation of Children and working on the Juvenile Justice Coalition's Sexually Exploited Youth Committee.