

CFCC SYMPOSIUM ON THE HARM OF REMOVAL TO CHILDREN, PARENTS, AND COMMUNITIES

September 27, 2023 | 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for
Families, Children and the Courts

University of Baltimore School of Law

Byron L. Warnken Moot Court Room
John and Frances Angelos Law Center
1401 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

When children are separated from their parents by legal systems, they suffer permanent trauma. The anguish is no less for parents who find themselves without their children due to state intervention. Both parents and children experience detrimental effects on their mental, emotional, and physical health. Further, the larger community suffers when there is a systemic pattern of continually breaking up families. Join us to discuss the impact of family separation and to collectively brainstorm about how we keep families intact and support their health and well-being.



Keynote Speaker: Sixto Cancel is the founder and CEO of Think of Us, Think of You, a research and design lab driving systemic change in child welfare policy and practice.



8:00 - 9:00 AM

Registration/Coffee & Mingle

9:00 - 9:45 AM

Welcome: Ronald Weich, Dean of the University of Baltimore School of Law and Aubrey Edwards-Luce, CFCC Executive Director

9:45 - 10:30 AM

Keynote by Sixto Cancel

10:30 - 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 - 12:15 PM

Morning Panel: The History of Family Separation and Removal

12:15 - 1:45 PM

Lunch Provided - Sponsored by Grantmakers for Girls of Color

1:45 - 2:30 PM

Red Table Talk: Removal Through Our Eyes

2:30 - 2:45 PM

Break

2:45 - 3:30 PM

Afternoon Panel: Removal Today

3:30 - 4:00 PM

Closing: Shanta Trivedi, CFCC Faculty Director

4:00 - 4:30 PM

Book Signing

Morning Panel: The History of Family Separation and Removal

Moderated by attorney and advocate Angela Burton, this panel will deepen our understanding of family separation by providing a historical grounding for the family separation practices and policies that we see today. Topics will include: Native American "boarding schools," the Indian Adoption Project and the intergenerational effects of these practices; family separation through the Transatlantic slave trade and its impact on American descendants of slavery; the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), as well as mandated reporting and the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) of 1997; and the long-standing role that homophobia and transphobia have played in facilitating the separation of LGBTQ youth from their families.



Angela Burton
Moderator



Corey Best



Currey Cook



Alan Dettlaff



Sandy White Hawk

Red Table Talk: Removal through Our Eyes

Experts with lived experience will have an authentic discussion about the harm of removal as experienced by children and families today via placement in foster care and juvenile detention. Panelists will share their experiences and perspectives on: the intergenerational harms of family separation, the pathologizing and penalization of trauma of parents of color, the role biases play in detention and removal decisions, the need for community capacity and wisdom to be respected, and the solutions that they are most interested in exploring.



Michael D. Davis-Thomas



Shemia Dillard



Christina Simmons



Tony Lodge



Robyn Wynd Tiger



Prudence Beidler Carr
Moderator



Tania Cabellero

Afternoon Panel: Removal Today

Moderated by Prudence Beidler Carr, Director of the American Bar Association's Center on Children and the Law, this panel will provide a clear view of the statistics and practices of family removal today, including insights into the disproportionate impact of investigations, removals, and terminations of parental rights by race; an update on mandating reporting and ASFA; and family separation as policy and practice at the southern border.



Rafael Lopez



Ilesha Randolph



Nena Villamar



Vicki Schultz



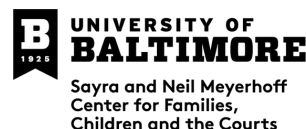
Jane Spinak

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