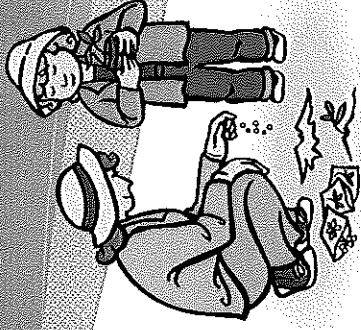


CIVIL LITIGATION CLINIC

Children and Families

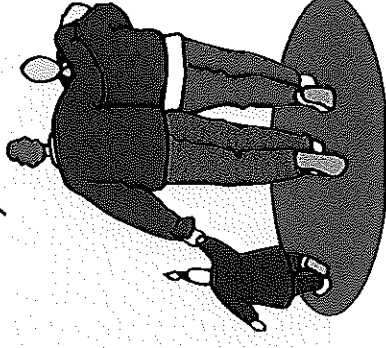
CIVIL LITIGATION: Meaning?



- * Always in court
- * Always advocating
- * Using every legal skill taught in law school
- * Using every legal skill any lawyer would use
- * Using best practices: integrity, ethics, professionalism, preparation
- * The “cream” is you are doing this work for **CHILDREN!**

CIVIL LITIGATION: Breakdown

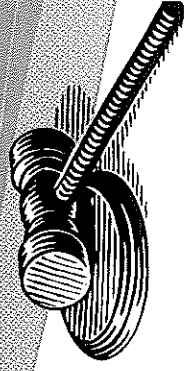
- * **Always in court:** each student attorney will have three to five court appearances for motion hearings, short hearings or trials.
- * **Always advocating:** pretrial discovery; opening and closing statements; direct and cross examination; admitting documents into evidence; drafting motions, petitions, and trial briefs.
- * **Using every skill:** interviewing and counseling, negotiation, fact investigation, legal research
- * **The “cream” is your doing this for CHILDREN!**



CHILD WELFARE CASES

- * Abused, neglected and dependent children as Guardians ad Litem
- * Undocumented immigrant children as Guardians ad Litem
- * Children having education issues
- * Children needing name changes, birth certificates, conservatorships, public benefits
- * NOT public defenders for delinquent children: NOT divorce lawyers.

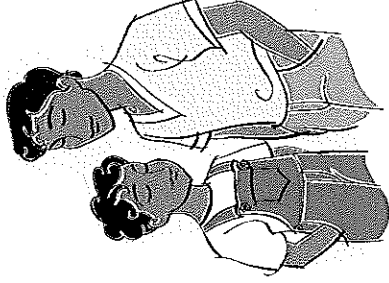
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: types of cases



- * Court Appointments: Rule 40 GAL in child abuse, neglect, termination of parental rights (juvenile, circuit, chancery); Rule 40 A GAL in custody, visitation, disestablishment of paternity (juvenile, circuit, chancery)
- * MALSI: Variety of children's case: name changes, birth certificates, education, conservatorships for young adults turning 18

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: New Partnership

- * Memphis Immigration Advocates to serve as GAL for undocumented immigrant children from Central America who are entitled to Special Immigrant Juvenile Visas (probate court)



Some Child Clients



- * **Ladarian:** at 10 months, showed up at LeBonheur as near death with at least nine old and new injuries; needed emergency surgery, lasting developmental delay; trial to establish severe child abuse requires medical expert at LeBonheur; PT, ST and OT experts at Vanderbilt.
- * **Anthony:** 12 year old with history of abandonment, instability and trauma, moved from relative to treatment facility to foster care; has mental health diagnoses; has found a permanent home with his father in Michigan.
- * **Carter, Willow, Zarrian:** All children whose parents have severe addictions to drugs. Range from infant placed with grandparents, to six year old placed with maternal great grandparents, to one year just TPR'd and placed with cousin.

TESTIMONIAL



- * “This case was the most demanding, yet rewarding, case we worked on....We remember feelings of shock and outrage after first reading the petition. We were completely overwhelmed with joy, excitement, and satisfaction when the paternal grandparents received custody of the children. We were able to see the case through from beginning to end, and leave the case with feelings of achievement and comfort that the girls are safe. The case molded our entire clinical experience and provided us with a head start into our legal careers.”

MISSION

*PRACTICE READY
LAWYERS

