

## About Kids First Center...

Co-founded by Resources for Divorced Families and the Junior League of Portland, Maine, Inc., Kids First Center programs provide practical information and helpful suggestions to help separating or divorcing parents focus on the needs of their children.

Kids First Professional Education Committee strives to further educate professionals working with families going through the separation and divorce process.



### Guest Speakers

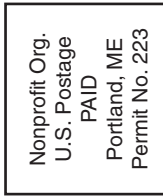
Susan Crockin, Esq.    Professor Judith Stacey

### Panel Members

Michael Asen, Esq.  
Judith Berry, Esq.  
Mary Bonauto, Esq.  
Franklin Brooks, Jr., MSW, LCSW  
Shelley Cohen Konrad, Ph.D.  
Barbara Freethy, M.Ed.  
Margaret Lavoie, Esq.  
Pat Peard, Esq.  
Professor Jennifer Wriggins, J.D.

*The Kids First Center is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide support services to families of separation and divorce.*

*Our services are available to all, regardless of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental disability or national origin.*



**KIDS FIRST<sup>SM</sup> CENTER**

*Supporting Families of Separation and Divorce  
222 St. John Street, Suite 101, Portland Maine 04102*

Kids First Professional Education Series  
Presents:

Same Sex Parenting -  
The Creation and Separation of Family  
Legal and Social Issues for  
Partners and Their Children

*a multidisciplinary workshop for legal  
and mental health professionals*

Friday, November 4, 2005  
8:00am - 3:30pm

The Harraseeket Inn  
162 Main Street  
Freeport, Maine

## Guest Speakers

### **Susan L. Crockin, Esq.**

Susan L. Crockin is a Boston area attorney with one of the first private legal and consulting practices on the legal aspects of the reproductive technologies, reproductive genetics, embryo law and adoption and family creation through those means. She created the practice in 1988. She is also a nationally recognized lecturer and author in the field, the editor of two books, the author of several chapters, articles, and, for over fifteen years, the national legal column, "Legally Speaking"®, a column she created which reviews court decisions in these unique areas of the law for the medical community.

### **Judith Stacey, Ph.D.**

Judith Stacey is Professor of Sociology and Professor of Gender and Sexuality at New York University. Her research examines changes in family, sexuality and society, with a current focus on gay family issues, about which she has authored several articles and publications. She is one of the founders of the Council on Contemporary Families, a group committed to public education on family research.

### **Conference Overview**

Welcome by Bucky Johnson, Board President, Kids First Center

Opening remarks by Michael Asen, Esq. and Shelley Cohen Konrad, Ph.D.

### **Primer on Psychological Issues**

Guest speaker, Professor Judith Stacey, will address psychological health of children raised in same-sex households and concerns about methodology and cultural debates

### **Families by Choice: Issues of Creation and Dissolution**

Various separation and divorce issues being discussed by panels made up of legal and mental health professionals

### **Families Created with Assistive Technology**

Creation of ART Family presented by guest speaker, Susan Crockin, Esq., to include primer on medical procedures, the ABC's of legal protections for same-sex families and their children and co-guardianship procedures in Maine

### **The Dissolution of the ART Family**

Panel members will examine 3 – 5 factual scenarios, including overview of factors courts examine when these families separate – ART statutes, paternity or parentage and other related statutes, equity, intended parent doctrine, UPA, ALI

### **Adoption, Guardianship and Foster Care**

The Creation of the Family – Panel discussion to address primers on adoption and foster care in Maine, working with DHHS, working with private agencies, open adoption and Right to Know laws among other issues

### **The Dissolution of the Family**

Topics to be discussed: Families who jointly adopted children elsewhere and relocated to Maine – enforceability of adoption. Where one parent is adoptive parent and other is not, what steps can be taken to ensure contact between child and parent

### **Family Panel**

Moderated by Franklin Brooks, Jr.

### **Suggested Audience**

Lawyers, guardians ad litem, mediators, judges, case managers, social workers, therapists, psychologists and educators

### **Continuing Education Units**

Continuing education units are being applied for in the fields of education, psychology and law, including ethics. All other professionals will receive a certificate of attendance of 6 hours.

### **Directions to The Harraseeket Inn**

Exit 22 off Route 295 North, Freeport  
Take a left and the Inn will be straight ahead.  
Free parking in rear of building. 207-865-9377

## REGISTRATION FORM

Same Sex Parenting ~  
The Creation and Separation of Family:  
Legal and Social Issues for  
Partners and Their Children  
**Friday, November 4, 2005**  
**8:00 – 3:30**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed \_\_\_\_ (please check here)

### **Registration is available online @**

**[www.kidsfirstcenter.org](http://www.kidsfirstcenter.org)**

Fee to attend is \$145 ~ this includes gourmet lunch and free parking on site. Please pay by **MasterCard or Visa** or enclose a check payable to **Kids First Center** along with this registration form to:

**Kids First Center, 222 St. John Street,  
Suite 101, Portland, ME 04102-3054**

**Confirmation:** Registrations must be received by October 21, 2005. A confirmation call will be made to you prior to the date of the conference.

**Cancellation Policy:** Transfer of registration to another person may be done at any time without a fee. All requests for refunds received by **October 21, 2005** will receive a full refund minus a \$25 service fee. No refunds will be issued after this date.