

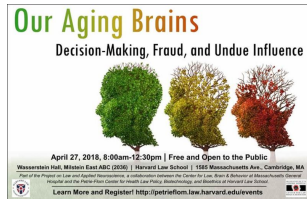
CLBB News



A monthly newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior @ MGH

March 2018

Featured Headlines



[Register today! April 27 Conference, "Our Aging Brains: Decision-making, Fraud, and Undue Influence"](#)

With over 70 million Baby Boomers retiring, elder financial exploitation has been labeled the "Crime of the 21st Century." In this half-day event, we will explore the neuroscience, psychology, and legal doctrine of financial decision-making in older adults. How does the aging brain make financial decisions, and when is it uniquely susceptible? How can courts best use science to improve their

adjudication of disputes over "competency", "capacity", and "undue influence"? Is novel neuroimaging evidence of dementia ready for courtroom use? This conference will bring together experts in medicine, science, and law to explore these important questions and chart a path forward for dementia and the law.

This event is free and open to the public; however, seating is limited and registration is required.



[April 19 Event, "Lie Detection in the Courtroom"](#)

Dr. Francis X. Shen will examine the promises and limitations of the emerging field of neurolaw, and the ways in which neuropsychiatric evidence is being proffered as evidence in criminal and civil contexts.

This event is free and open to the public.



[April 11 Event, "How to Fix Youth Sports Concussion Laws: Neuroscientific Perspectives"](#)

States have revised their policies and statutes as neuroscientific research on sports concussions grows, yet at present we have limited research on how these state sports concussion laws are working. This panel will explore the intersection of neuroscience and law in the context of preventing, detecting, and treating youth sports concussions.

This lunch event is free and open to the public.



[April 9 Event, "Crimes of Passion: New Neuroscience v. Old Doctrine"](#)

The criminal law often sees love and passion turned into violence. Many doctrines, most notably the "heat of passion" defense - which historically has been used disproportionately to excuse the crimes of men against women - rely on a distinction between defendants who acted "emotionally" instead of "rationally." But modern neuroscience has debunked the idea that reason and emotion are two entirely

different mental states. This panel will explore how law should respond to this neuroscientific challenge to long-held doctrine.

This lunch event is free and open to the public.

Other News

GENERAL NEWS

[CDC Now Has Authority To Research Gun Violence. What's Next?](#) | NPR | March 25, 2018

[I Sent An Innocent Man to Prison](#) | The Marshall Project | February 22, 2018

JUVENILE JUSTICE

[CA Top Court Strikes Down 50-Year Sentence for Juveniles](#) | LA Times | February 26, 2018

[Why Are Undocumented Minors Spending So Much Time in Custody?](#) | New Yorker | March 8, 2018

[Improving Law Enforcement Training and Interviewing Skills When Investigating Pre-Teens and Adolescents](#) | NY Law Journal | March 13, 2018

[The Last Kids Locked Up in Virginia](#) | The Atlantic | March 16, 2018

ELDERS

[2018 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures](#) | Alzheimer's Association | 2018

[Justice Department Coordinates Nationwide Elder Fraud Sweep of More Than 250 Defendants](#) | US Department of Justice | February 22, 2018

['Epigenetic landscape' is protective in normal aging, impaired in Alzheimer's disease](#) | Science Daily | March 5, 2018

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

[Brain Scans in the Courts: Prosecutor's Dream or Civil Rights Nightmare?](#) | Science | March 14, 2018

["My Brain Made Me Do It" Is Becoming a More Common Criminal Defense](#) | Scientific American | March 5, 2018

PAIN & SUFFERING

[Jeff Sessions Pushes the Death Penalty for Drug Dealers](#) | Mother Jones | March 21, 2018

[Measuring the Toll of the Opioid Epidemic Is Tougher Than It Seems](#) | ProPublica | March 13, 2018

[Jump In Overdoses Shows Opioid Epidemic Has Worsened](#) | NPR | March 6, 2018

Faculty & Advisory Board Highlights

Congresswoman Katherine Clark introduced the Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Act in an effort to encourage more healthcare professionals to work in substance use disorder treatment ([>>](#)).

Anne-Marie Slaughter and New America submitted a detailed implementation plan for the \$6 billion Congress allocated in February to fight the national opioid epidemic ([>>](#)).

Bruce H. Price traveled to Mumbai, India, to be the Keynote Speaker for the Dr. N.S. Vahia Foundation for Enhancement of Neuropsychiatry in India.

Judy Edersheim was the Keynote Speaker for the MGH Psychiatry Leadership Council's Twelfth Annual Palm Beach Seminar, "Research Advances and Treatment Innovations in Mental Health".

Judy Edersheim, Hon. Nancy Gertner (ret.), and Francis X. Shen held a panel discussion on addiction, neuroscience, and the criminal law featuring key legal and scientific experts involved in the *Commonwealth v. Julie Eldred* case as part of their Law and Neuroscience seminar at Harvard Law School.

Leah Somerville received the 2018 Early Career Award from the Social and Affective Neuroscience Society ([>>](#)).

Lisa Feldman Barrett's TED talk, "You aren't at the mercy of your emotions", is available here ([>>](#)).







David Borsook was published in the *Annals of Neurology* ([>>](#)).

Steve Hyman was published in the *Philosophical transactions of the Royal Society of London. Series B, biological sciences* ([>>](#)).

Fiery Cushman was published in *Cognition*, and has a chapter in press in *The atlas of moral psychology: Mapping good and evil* ([>>](#)).

Randy Buckner and Jordan Smoller were published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of the Sciences of the United States of America* ([>>](#)).

CLBB Program Areas

-  JUVENILE JUSTICE
-  ELDERS
-  CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY
-  MEMORY
-  PAIN & SUFFERING
-  DECEPTION



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