

CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

SPECIAL FOCUS: TRAUMA AT THE BORDER

July 29, 2019

CLBB Highlights



[Trauma at the Border \(Past Event\)](#)

CLBB | March 4, 2019

Record numbers of children and families seeking to enter the United States face an increasingly hostile immigration system. Can neuroscience help us understand how the trauma of violence and separation affect the brain? Might neuroscientific evidence be effectively introduced into legal cases? Does neuroscience have a larger role to play in shaping our nation's immigration policies? Panelists Charles Nelson, III, PhD, Cindy Zapata, JD, and Francis Shen, PhD, JD, engaged in a dialogue between scientists and lawyers on neuroscience, trauma, and justice.



[Heartbreak at the Border: Cindy Zapata on Her Trip to Karnes Detention Center](#)

The Clinical and Pro Bono Programs of HLS | November 8, 2018

Cindy Zapata, JD, Lecturer on Law and Clinical Instructor, Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program at Harvard Law School, writes about volunteering at the Karnes Family Detention Center. At the Karnes Detention Center, she emphasizes how "Each [person] had a very unique story, but they all shared a similar sentiment: they were scared of returning to their home country. Each had suffered or witnessed unimaginable horrors - sexual violence, physical assault, and death."



[How to Turn Children Into Criminals](#)

The New York Times | May 30, 2018

CLBB affiliated faculty Dr. Charles Nelson, III, PhD, Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and Director of Research, Developmental Medicine Center at the Boston Children's Hospital, co-authors this op-ed with Margaret A. Sheridan to discuss how the Trump administration's policy of separating children from their parents is not only inhumane but also dangerous; "In a long-term study of children separated from their parents early in life and raised for periods without family members, we and our colleagues...found a profound impact on their cognitive ability, social function, mental health and brain development."

Upcoming Events

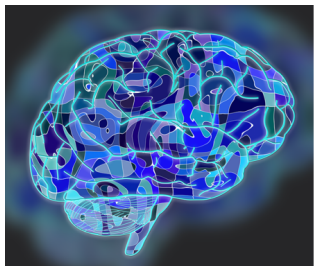
[The Public Health Crisis on the U.S. Border: An Urgent Conversation](#)



July 30, 2019 | 2:00pm - 5:00pm EST | Jefferson Lab Room 250 | Harvard University

In response to the rapidly worsening public health crisis at the southern border, the Harvard Global Health Initiative is holding a panel featuring experts from a variety of health-related fields as well as people working on the front lines of the border crisis. Panelists will discuss what action is necessary to ease the crisis and the health consequences of failing to act. The event is open to the public.

[Register here.](#)

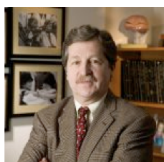


[Webinar: A Student's Guide to Careers and Graduate Programs in Law and Neuroscience](#)

August 8, 2019 | 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST

Law and Neuroscience are increasingly of interest to high school, undergraduate, and graduate students. Yet many with an interest in these disciplines do not know where to start. In this free webinar, CLBB Executive Director Dr. Francis Shen, PhD, JD will address common questions about how to pursue studies and careers at the intersection of law, neuroscience, artificial intelligence, and related interdisciplinary fields. The webinar is free, but you must [register in advance](#).

Spotlight on Faculty Research



[Long-Term Effects of Institutional Rearing, Foster Care, and Brain Activity on Memory and Executive Functioning](#) | Charles A. Nelson III
| Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences | January 29, 2019

Highlight: "Efforts to uncover the specific facets of the early caregiving environment that support memory and EF among children with histories of institutional rearing will provide essential targets for prevention and intervention initiatives that aim to optimize development in this uniquely vulnerable group of children."

In The News

[Congress Told Impact of Immigrant Children's Trauma May be Lifelong](#) | American Medical Association | July 12, 2019

[Trauma at the Border: Can Neuroscience Inform Legal Advocacy?](#) | Bill of Health | February 28, 2019

[Trump is Planning a Cruel Twist in Border Policy](#) | The Washington Post | May 20, 2019

[Future Directions in the Study and Treatment of Parent-Child Separation](#) | Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology | December 17, 2018

[Traumatic Brain Injury Among Refugees and Asylum Seekers](#) | Disability and Rehabilitation | October 16, 2017

CENTER FOR LAW, BRAIN & BEHAVIOR

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