

# CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

SPECIAL FOCUS: JUVENILE JUSTICE

September 9, 2019

## CLBB Highlights



### [Affective Neuroscience & Development Laboratory](#)

Dr. Leah Somerville | Harvard Department of Psychology

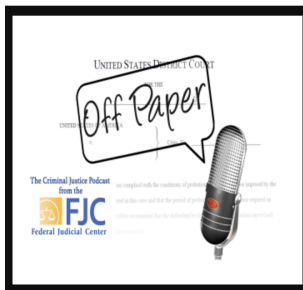
CLBB Affiliated Faculty Member Dr. Leah Somerville, Associate Professor of Psychology at Harvard University, leads the Affective Neuroscience & Development Laboratory. The lab uses a combination of behavioral, psychophysiological, and neuroscientific techniques to understand how the brain develops during adolescence and how brain development during this time relates to common changes in motivation, decision making, emotion, and risk for psychiatric illness. See their many publications on the [lab website](#), and follow on [Twitter!](#)



### [APA 2019 Main Stage: Robert Kinscherff on Gun Violence](#)

American Psychological Association | August 19, 2019

This summer CLBB's Associate Managing Director Dr. Robert Kinscherff, PhD, JD, spoke at the Main Stage Event on Gun Violence at the American Psychological Association conference to discuss his research on gun violence policy and law, public health approaches, and other factors related to addressing gun violence in the United States.



### [Neurodevelopment, Adversity, and Trauma: What Research Tells Us and Why it Matters for Criminal Justice Professionals](#)

Off Paper: The Criminal Justice Podcast from the FJC | December 20, 2018

In this episode of *Off Paper: The Criminal Justice Podcast from the FJC*, host Mark Sherman and guest CLBB's Dr. Robert Kinscherff discuss forensic mental health services, juvenile and adult court clinic operations and diversion programs, as well as specialty courts for persons with mental illness and significant addiction, trauma and multi-system involvement.

## Upcoming Events

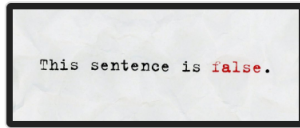
[Law and Neuroscience: From Theory to Practice](#)

## LAW AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

STUDENT ASSOCIATION AT  
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

September 18, 2019 | Harvard Law School, Wasserstein Hall, Room 4063 | 12:00pm

Kick off the school year with the HLS [Law and Behavioral Science Student Association](#), as they host CLBB Executive Director Dr. Francis Shen to introduce the field of law and neuroscience. The lunchtime session will feature a Q&A opportunity, with emphasis on how students can get involved in the work of CLBB.



### Lying

September 21, 2019 | The Helix Center, 247 East 82nd Street, New York, NY 10028 | 2:30pm

It is often said that "pathological liars" believe the lies they make up, and this is what contributes to their lying and their effectiveness as liars. How do these people deepen the subtleties of lying and manipulate the truth so effectively? How do psychological and neuropsychiatric studies shed light on liars, confabulators, and sociopaths? CLBB's Dr. Francis Shen will join a panel of scholars from a variety of disciplines to explore what liars do when they are lying.

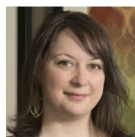


### Computational Justice: How Artificial Intelligence and Digital Phenotyping Can Advance Social Good

October 23, 2019 | 12:00-1:30pm | Harvard Law School, Wasserstein Hall, Milstein East C

The future of neuroscience and law will be a computational future, as both fields are increasingly integrating artificial intelligence and machine learning. But what will this future look like? Can AI and digital technologies promote justice, diversity, and inclusion? Or will these technologies replicate, or even exacerbate, existing inequalities and biases? This special CLBB event will feature MIT Technology Review "35 Innovators Under 35" award winner [Rediet Abebe](#) and Harvard Medical School Psychiatry Professor [Dr. Justin Baker, JD, PhD](#) to discuss these questions, as they explore how AI and digital technologies can advance social good through improved social, psychiatric, and legal interventions.

## Spotlight on Faculty Research & Publications



### [Low Emotional Awareness as a Transdiagnostic Mechanism Underlying Psychopathology in Adolescence](#)

Leah Somerville, PhD | August 26, 2019

*Highlight:* "We evaluated how emotional awareness was related to psychopathology and whether low emotional awareness was a transdiagnostic mechanism explaining the increase in psychopathology during the transition to adolescence and as a function of childhood trauma-specifically violence exposure."

### [Promoting Positive Outcomes for Justice-Involved Youth: Implications for Policy, Systems and Practice](#)

Judge Baker Children's Center | February 2019  
Co-Authoring by Dr. Robert Kinscherff

*Highlight:* "... a comprehensive continuum of care that prioritizes evidence-based policies and practices, community-based services, and strategies that utilize positive youth development ... will

help address and alleviate the underlying behavioral, emotional, and developmental needs that contribute to contact and lasting involvement with the juvenile justice system."



**[Recording Routine Forensic Mental Health Evaluations Should be a Standard of Practice in the 21st Century](#)**

Robert Kinscherff, PhD, JD | April 25, 2018

*Highlight:* "The greater availability of, and familiarity with, recording technology on the part of mental health professionals, the greater use and proven effectiveness of recording in other contexts of the criminal justice system, and the improvement in court presentation and accuracy of judicial determinations involving forensic assessments that recording will provide."



**[19-Year-Olds Don't Belong in Adult Prisons](#)**

Hon. Nancy Gertner | June 20, 2017

*Highlight:* "18-to-20-year-olds are at a distinct developmental stage, in between children and mature adults. Most will "age out of criminality," especially if they cross the bridges that criminologists believe are essential, like completing their education, getting married, getting a job. Adult prison doesn't just stall that trajectory; it could derail it entirely. And the impact of that imprisonment is worse with young African-Americans and Latinos, who are incarcerated in Massachusetts at 3.2 and 1.7 times the rate of whites."



**[States Raising Age for Adult Prosecution Back to 18](#)**

Judith Edersheim, MD, JD | February 1, 2017

*Highlight:* "If you don't provide an adolescent with an opportunity to develop a social competency or self-esteem, if you don't put them in contact with pro-social peers, then you're setting trajectories which actually might persist through adulthood," Edersheim says. "Adolescents are really these neurologic sponges for their environment."

## In The News

**[More than Half of Michigan Juvenile Lifers 'Still Await Resentencing'](#)** | The Crime Report | August 19, 2019

**[Mandatory Minimums Harm Children](#)** | The Hill | August 27, 2019

**[ABA Urges Supreme Court to Follow Miller Standard for Juvenile Punishments](#)** | ABA Journal | August 28, 2019

**[What Juvenile Justice Needs: Care, Not Cages](#)** | Governing | August 16, 2019

**[How the Central Park Five Expose the Fundamental Injustice in Our Legal System](#)** | The Washington Post | June 12, 2019

**[L.A. County's Juvenile Facilities Need Leaders Willing To Fix A Broken System](#)** | Los Angeles Times | May 28, 2019

**['Incarceration Helped Me Find My Voice'](#)** | The New York Times | March 6, 2019

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