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CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

February 8, 2022

Online Event Tomorrow!

[Neuroscience and Criminal Law: The Post-Jones Landscape for Late Adolescents and Emerging Adults](#)

Register [here](#) to receive access to the livestream!



February 9, 2021, 12:30 PM ET
The Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, this panel discussion will be held virtually as an online webinar. To ensure that you will receive access to the livestream and be kept up to date on any changes to the event, [register now](#). We will send out a link to the livestream of the event to all registrants the day before and day of the event. **Last registration is 11:30am on the day of the event.**

Event Description

The U.S. Supreme Court landmark case of *Roper v. Simmons* (2005) barring execution for crimes committed prior to age 18 launched a line of cases extending Eighth Amendment protections for juveniles. These cases clearly established that children are not little adults. The April 2021 SCOTUS decision in *Jones v. Mississippi* appears to signal a shift from federal constitutional cases to litigation and legislation among the states. This has prompted vigorous debate about how science should inform criminal law and policy regarding late teens and emerging adults and sharpens ongoing controversy about how developmental science is or should be applied to those under 18. This panel surveys the current landscape of cases and legislation focused on crafting developmentally aligned frameworks for responding to misconduct by younger adolescents, late adolescents (ages 18 – 20) and emerging adults (21 – 25), including “raising the age” of full criminal culpability past age 18. The contributions of neuroscience to informing a developmentally aligned jurisprudence for late adolescents and emerging adults will be reviewed. We will be recording this event and will post it to our website after the conclusion of the event.

Panelists

Introduction: [Carmel Shachar](#), Executive Director, Petrie-Flom Center



[Honorable Jay Blitzman](#) (ret.), CLBB Affiliated Faculty and Lecturer, Harvard Law School, Northeastern Law School, and Boston College Law School

[Lael Chester](#), JD, Director of the Emerging Adult Justice Project at Columbia University's Justice Lab

[Stephanie Tabashneck](#), PsyD, JD, Senior Fellow in Law and Applied Neuroscience, CLBB and the Petrie-Flom Center

[CLBB Releases White Paper on the Science of Late Adolescence](#)

It is into this complex and dynamic context that CLBB releases the *White Paper on the Science of Late Adolescence: A Guide for Judges, Attorneys, and Policy Makers*. This White Paper is the product of the Neuroscience Summit and intensive multidisciplinary collaboration over the months since the Summit. We anticipate that it will have significant and enduring impact nationally in shaping litigation, legislation, and practice across multiple professions and systems that interact with juveniles, late adolescents, and emerging adults. Please see [here](#) to download.

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