

JUDITH PEPPER

Year called 1999

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OVERVIEW

Judith's practice frequently involves complex care proceedings and adoption. She also undertakes cases involving vulnerable adults. She has extensive experience in private law family work, particularly representing children in cases involving serious allegations of harm. Judith is noted for her ability to get on top of legal and factual issues quickly.

PRACTICE AREAS

Children

Court of Protection

International

EXPERIENCE

Judith has a strong practice in complex public law proceedings. She specialises in care proceedings involving non-accidental injury, allegations of sexual abuse, factitious/induced illness, domestic violence including when one parent has killed the other parent, and placement outside the jurisdiction. She is also often instructed in cases involving adoption and is regularly asked to advise in complicated care proceedings and adoption proceedings. Judith has particular experience in care proceedings involving parallel criminal proceedings.

A particular interest is that of siblings in care proceedings and adoption. Judith has written articles on this topic and has presented training on this issue including co- for the Judicial College alongside Professor Daniel Monk.

Judith is also instructed in private law proceedings which includes cases concerning alleged parental alienation and intractable contact disputes. She has experience of cases which began as private law proceedings which then become subject to local authority involvement.

Judith also undertakes work involving the Court of Protection and vulnerable adults, especially cases involving forced marriage. She has written articles and provided training on the topic of forced marriage.

Judith is known as a persuasive and accessible advocate with an attention to detail and a straightforward manner. She regularly presents lectures and seminars on current issues of child law. Judith is a Trustee and Treasurer of the charity 'I Can Be'.

PUBLICATIONS

Siblings in care proceedings: together and apart, Family Law, October 2020, [2020] Fam Law 1333

Sibling assessments in care proceedings and adoption, Family Law Week, Feb 2020

Forced marriage: is enough being done? [2019] Family Law 1310

When one parent kills another – how should the family court approach this? Family Law Week, October 2019

Misuse of section 20 (case report of Herefordshire Council v AB 2019 EWFC 10), [2018] Family Law 610

Adoption: the current challenges, October 2018, Civitas

Adoption: the journey to where we are now, May 2018, Civitas

Forced Marriage: protective measures for children and young people in the family courts and the court of protection, part 1, 8 April 2018, Family Law Week

Forced Marriage: protective measures for children and young people in the family courts and the court of protection, part 2, 11 April 2018, Family Law Week

Maintaining sibling relationships in care and adoption [2017] Fam Law 1112

CASES

Re I-A (Revocation of Adoption Orders) [2021] EWCA Civ 1222

Re X (Parental Order: Child's Home) [2021] EWHC 29, linked with Re Z (Care Proceedings: Surrogacy) [2021] EWHC 589

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

King's College London, LLB Hons (1998)

Inns of Court School of Law (1999)

University College London, LLM (Merit) (2002)

Family Law Bar Association
Middle Temple
Association of Lawyers for Children
Court of Protection Practitioners Association
