SYLLABUS

The reading is not intended to be overwhelming, but it will be difficult to complete if you wait until the very last minute. Most of the articles I have assigned are relatively short or, if they are not short, I have generally assigned only excerpts. You do not need to read footnotes and endnotes for class, although I encourage you to do so if something in the text interests you. Also, footnotes and endnotes are a very good resource for paper ideas and sources. Please note: the syllabus is subject to change.

We will be reading portions of the following four books, all of which should be available in the bookstore. They are also available on-line. I was able to buy the first three books from half.com for a total of about $30, including shipping (in 2008), and the fourth book for about $12 on amazon.com more recently.

Joan Williams, *Unbending Gender: Why Family and Work Conflict and What To Do About It* (2001)


Dolores Hayden, *Redesigning the American Dream: Gender, Housing, and Family Life* (2002)

Note: it is important to get the 2002 edition, not the 1984 version.

I will be providing all other readings by web links or citations that you can look up on Westlaw, LEXIS, or JSTOR, by e-mail, or by distribution in class or on the course website. This method of providing assigned reading is slightly unwieldy but it eliminates the need for you to pay for expensive copying licenses and copying charges. It is my intention to use this method for your convenience and to save you money, so if it turns out not to be worthwhile, please let me know.

The course website is accessible through this link: [http://www.kentlaw.edu/faculty/cshapiro/classes/](http://www.kentlaw.edu/faculty/cshapiro/classes/)

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**Week #1**  
**Employment Discrimination Law and Work/Family Issues**

January 21

Sample anti-discrimination laws, available on course website


**Week #2**

**January 28**

**Accommodation, the Workplace, and the Law**


(Review major provisions)

Selected state laws, available on course website


Catherine Albiston, Anti-Essentialism and the Work/Family Dilemma, 20 Berkeley J. of Gender, L. & Justice 30 (2005), Part II.A, pp. 35-42 (top)


Joan Williams, Unbending Gender, pp. 1-63, 150-69

**Week #3**

**February 4**

**Work/Family and Family Life in Two-Parent Families**

Rhona Mahony, Kidding Ourselves, pp. 17-22, 37-57, 100-14, 215-22 (top)

Katharine Silbaugh, Turning Labor Into Love: Housework and the Law, 91
Week #4  | Work/Family Issues in Child Support, Child Custody, and Divorce  
February 11  
Joan Williams, *Unbending Gender*, pp. 114-41  

Week #5  | The Influence of Housing and Development  
February 18  

Week #6  | Taxes, Torts, and Social Security  
February 25  
Rhona Mahony, *Kidding Ourselves*, pp. 191-93  

Week #7  | Work/Family and Class: Working Class and Poor Families  
March 4  
Joan C. Williams, *Want Gender Equity? Die Childless at Thirty*, 27 Women’s Rights Law Reporter 3 (2006), pp. 7-11 (from paragraph containing footnote 42 through paragraph containing footnote 91)

Jason DeParle, *Better Work Than Welfare, But What If There’s Neither?* New York Times Magazine (December 18, 1994), distributed by e-mail

Noah Zatz, *What Is a Working Family* (excerpts; work in progress), distributed by e-mail

Nancy Folbre, *Eliminating Economic Penalties on Caregivers* (excerpt), in Heymann and Beem, pp. 360-67

Joan Williams, *Unbending Gender*, pp. 76-81


Ann Crittenden, *Their Babies Are Everything: Somebody has finally realized that “welfare moms” are people, too*, The American Prospect (May 22, 2005), link available on course website

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**Week #8**

**Work/Family and Class: Lawyers, Professionals, and Other Elites**

March 11


Linda Hirshman, *Homeward Bound*, The American Prospect (November 21, 2005), link available on course website

Rhona Mahony, *Kidding Ourselves*, pp. 133-48


Joan C. Williams, *Want Gender Equity? Die Childless at Thirty*, 27 Women’s Rights Law Reporter 3 (2006), pp. 3-7 (through paragraph containing footnote 41)

Week #9  NO CLASS: MEETINGS ON PAPERS
March 25
Week #10  Child Care, Housework, and Children

April 1

Caitlin Flanagan, *How Serfdom Saved the Women’s Movement*, The Atlantic (March 2004), link available on course website


Jody Heymann, *Inequalities at Work and at Home: Social Class and Gender Divides*, in Heymann and Beem, pp. 89-121

Janet C. Gornick and Marcia K. Meyers, *Supporting a Dual Earner/Dual Career Society* (excerpt on child care costs), in Heymann and Beem, pp. 376-77


Week #11  Solutions? Employer Initiatives, Legal Requirements, and Comparative Law

April 8


Sheila B. Kamerman, *Europe Advanced While the United States Lagged*, in Heymann and Beem, pp. 309-47

Nancy Folbre, *Eliminating Economic Penalties on Caregivers* (excerpts), in Heymann and Beem, pp. 348-60, 367-70


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