



Barrister

RACHEL FRANCIS

Email: [rf@onepumpcourt.co.uk](mailto:rf@onepumpcourt.co.uk)

Call: 2012





Specialist in  
Family  
Personal Immigration  
Civil Actions Against Public Authorities  
Modern Slavery & Trafficking Team  
Specialist Family & Immigration Team

## Experience

Rachel is an award-winning barrister practicing in family, immigration and public law. She has particular expertise in the overlap between immigration and family law, and in working with victims of modern slavery and human trafficking and sustained abuse.

Rachel has particular aptitude in working with clients of exceptional vulnerability. In 2019 Rachel was awarded the LAPG Special Award at the Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year Awards (third ever award), which recognises exceptional commitment to access to justice.

Rachel is the co-director of [Claiming Space](#), a Community Interest Company she co-founded in 2017 to provide support, and training for practitioners working with vulnerable populations. In 2021 Rachel co-authored the best-selling practitioner text, [\*Vicarious Trauma in the Legal Profession: a practical guide to trauma, burnout and collective care\*](#), which outsold all other books released by its publisher, LAG, in its first year of sale.

Rachel regularly delivers training on immigration and family law matters; her journal article, 'Immigration issues in children law proceedings' January [2020] Fam Law 88, on the intersection between these two practice areas was endorsed in the Court of Appeal (<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWCA/Civ/2020/731.html> see §35).

Rachel has spoken widely at conferences, on national radio, podcasts, and in print media, about vicarious trauma and its impact on practitioners.

## Education

BA Hons English Literature (Durham University), First Class  
Graduate Diploma in Law (University of Law), Distinction  
Bar Professional Training Course (University of Law), Very Competent

## Memberships

Immigration Law Practitioners Association  
Young Legal Aid Lawyers (former Co-chair)  
Bail for Immigration Detainees  
Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers  
Family Law Bar Association  
Association of Lawyers for Children  
Court of Protection Bar Association

## Awards



Legal Aid Practitioners Group Special Award 2019

## CASES

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### Local Authority B v BD & Ors

[2022] EWHC 2341 (Fam)

Care proceedings following removal of K at birth. Complex intersection of family, trafficking and international law, with Public Interest Immunity orders, and separate closed / open proceedings, due to collateral police investigation of international trafficking rings.

Fact finding judgment: <https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Fam/2022/2341.html>

Related Barristers:

[Rachel Francis](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Vicarious Trauma in the Legal Profession

Vicarious Trauma in the Legal Profession: a practical guide to trauma, burnout and collective care (co-author) LAG 2021. It can be purchased

at: <https://www.lag.org.uk/?id=209883&fromsearch=true#iosfirsthighlight>.

'Immigration issues in children law proceedings' January [2020] Fam Law 88

Related Barristers:

[Rachel Francis](#)