

Christine Alexandria Yared

Curriculum Vitae

2503 Mason Ridge Court
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49525
616.460.0129

christine@christineyared.com

www.christineyared.com

<https://www.facebook.com/gayteacher>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/christineyared3/>

EDUCATION

Stetson University, St. Petersburg, FL, Juris Doctor, 1984

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, B.S., Business Administration with concentration in economics, 1981

LEGAL WORK

Christine A. Yared, PLC, *Attorney & Counselor at Law*, Grand Rapids, MI, specializing in LGBTQ+ law, civil rights, employment, law, family law & criminal law; litigate cases in state & federal courts, 1987-present

Representative Cases

- discrimination, sexual harassment, & retaliation based on LGBTQ+ status, sex, race, and ethnicity against police agencies, cities and corporations; police officer retaliation case highlighted as one of top ten cases in Michigan in 2004 by *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*, January 24, 2005
- custody, separations and divorce specializing in LGBTQ+ cases; parental abuse/neglect, delinquency, lesbian parenting rights, 2015 case covered as "groundbreaking" by *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*
- crimes based on HIV/AIDS status, police sting operations involving gay men, criminal sexual conduct, drug, embezzlement and violent crimes

Assistant City Attorney, City of Grand Rapids, MI, prosecuted domestic abuse, assault & battery, drunk driving cases; advised City officials (1985-1987)

Public Defender's Office, 6th Judicial Circuit of Florida, 1984 Special Assistant Public Defender, law school student (1984)

U.S. Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office, Western District of Michigan, Grand Rapids, MI, law clerk (1983)

PUBLICATIONS

"Representing Transgender Clients," *Michigan Bar Journal*, forthcoming (2022)

Private Love, Public School - Gay Teacher Under Fire, foreword by Jay Kaplan, ACLU of Michigan attorney, book published in 2021

Book Speaking Events

National Education Association, LGBTQ+ Caucus, September 23, 2021

Cincinnati PFLAG, Cincinnati, OH, September 14, 2021

"ReChoice Pod with Joe Pellerito," Grand Rapids, MI, March 6, 2021

"Common Threads," Fred Stella, WGUV Radio, Grand Rapids, MI, March 12, 2021

SAGE Detroit, Detroit, MI, March 4, 2021

Affirmations LGBTQ+ Community Center, Ferndale, MI, March 3, 2021

PFLAG Holland/On the Lakeshore, Holland, MI, December 18, 2020

Books & Mortar Bookstore, Grand Rapids, MI, January 12, 2021

Schuler Books, Grand Rapids, MI, June 7, 2021

Plymouth-Canton PFLAG, Plymouth, MI, April 11, 2021

Grand Rapids Public Library, June 2021

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Grand Rapids, MI, April 18, 2021

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Charlotte, MI, March 21, 2021

Grand Valley State University, Honors College, Allendale, MI, March 11, 2021

Westminster Presbyterian Church book club, Grand Rapids, MI, December 3, 2021

"Where Are the Civil Rights for Gay and Lesbian Teachers?" *Human Rights*, American Bar Association (1997)

Father. *Living with Memory Loss*, University of Michigan Medical School (2013)

The Play. *Living with Memory Loss*, University of Michigan Medical School (2013)

"Custody Games: You Are the Weakest Link," *Michigan Family Law Journal*, Dispute Resolution Edition, co-author Michelle Crooks (2002)

Prisons, Jails, and Reformatories. (2000). *Encyclopedia of Gay Histories and Cultures*. New York, NY: Garland Publishing, Inc. (2000)

"Blended Families-When One or More of the Parents Are Lesbian or Gay," *Michigan Family Law Journal*, Second Marriages Edition, co-author Michelle Crooks (1999)

"Core Curriculum in Higher Education - Thoughts About the Journey," *Grand Valley Review*, co-author Michelle Crooks (March 1994)

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS

"2000 Update: Sexual Orientation, Law and Policy Issues in Criminal Justice," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, New Orleans, LA (March 2000)

"Gay and Lesbian Inmates in Prison and Jail," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Orlando, FL (March 1999)

- "Integrating Gay, Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender Scholarship in Curricula," Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, and Transgender Colleges, Chicago, IL (February 21, 1998)
- "Criminal Sodomy Laws: Relic of the Past or Foundation for the Future?" Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Albuquerque, NM, (March 1998)
- "Integrating Sexual Orientation Issues into Criminal Justice Curriculum," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Albuquerque, NM, (March 1998)
- "The Impact of Same-Sex Marriage on the Constitutionality of Criminal Sodomy Laws," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Las Vegas, NV (March 1996)
- "Using History and Policy to Enhance Law Curriculum," American Association for Paralegal Education, Atlanta, GA (October 1996)
- "Disclosing to the Jury the Defendant's Election to Remain Silent: English and American Legal Considerations," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Boston, MA, (March 1995)

SPEAKING AND TRAINING

- "Issues Facing Diverse Attorneys," panelist, Michigan State University College of Law, October 29, 2021
- "LGBT Legal and Cultural Issues," Michigan State Police, October 5 & 7, 2021
- Michigan Education Association Conference, "What Schools Need to Know: LGBTQ+ Students & Staff," July 27 & 28, 2021
- "LGBTQ+ Diversity & Legal Issues," Michigan Judicial Institute, May 6, 2021
- "The Rights of LGBTQ Students and Staff," Michigan Education Association Conference, February 2 & 6, 2021
- "Confronting Sexual Harassment, Bullying and Other Harassment in the Workplace," seminar presenter for National Business Institute (NBI), November 7, 2018
- "Legal Issues for the LGBTQ+ Community: A Panel Presentation," Fall 2017 Lyceum Lecture Series, Kalamazoo, panelist with Nathan Triplett, Equality Michigan Political Director; facilitator Frank Aiello, Professor of Law, WMU Cooley Law School, September 20, 2017
- "Vigil of Remembrance For Children Whose Lives Were Lost in the Gaza War," one year commemoration, speaker, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, July 2017
- "Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement," presenter, Eastminster, Presbyterian Church, September 2015
- "Vigil of Remembrance For Children Whose Lives Were Lost in the Gaza War," one year commemoration, speaker, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, July 21, 2015
- "Gay Teacher," speaker, PFLAG Holland, Grace Episcopal Church, May 15, 2015
- "Michigan for Marriage," panelist, Grand Rapids' Plymouth United Church of Christ, March 10, 2015
- Marriage Equality panel discussion, sponsored by Plymouth United Church of Christ and Michigan Marriage, March 7, 2015
- "*Events in Ferguson Did Not Occur in A Vacuum*," panel speaker, organized event sponsored by GVSU's "Black Lives Matter" programming, February 11, 2015
- "Right to Free Speech: Free Speech Defined," speaker, NALS of Michigan's Continuing Legal Education for legal assistants, October 12, 2013

"Committed: Queer Phobias," panelist, Grand Rapids Community College, April 1, 2009

"Committed," panelist, Grand Rapids Community College, March 27, 2008

"A Look in the Mirror; Reflections on Intolerance," panelist, Grand Rapids, MI, October 25, 2007

Mock Trials, conducted mock trials with elementary school students, Forest Hills Northern 5/6 (2003), Grand Rapids' Riverside Elementary School (1998)

"Domestic Partners: Benefits for Same Sex Partners?" panelist debating issue with American Family Association of Michigan President Gary Glenn, The Muskegon Forum, Muskegon Community College, February 15, 2001

"Lesbian and Gay Issues in K-12 Education," speaker, Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, GLSEN Grand Rapids Chapter, December 2, 2000

"Grand Rapids Against Discrimination," speaker, Grand Rapids Gay Pride Festival, August 5, 2000

"The Truth About Family Values," panelist, sponsored by Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Network of Western Michigan, Fountain Street Church, November 15, 1999

"Awareness Day on the Mall," speaker at Grand Rapids' Rosa Parks Circle public forum addressing lesbian and gay families, September 23, 1999

PFLAG (Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays), speaker, Grand Rapids Trinity Methodist Church, April 11, 1999

"Legal Issues for Lesbians," speaker, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Community Network of Western Michigan, April 6, 1999

"The State of the State: GLBT Equality in Michigan," speaker at press conference organized by Triangle Foundation of Michigan, speaker, Michigan State Capitol, March 18, 1999

"Lesbian and Gay Issues," speaker, Grand Rapids Plymouth Congregational Church, January 17, 1999

"Mathew Shepard and Hate Crimes," speaker, rally sponsored by City of Grand Rapids' Community Relations Committee, October 28, 1998

"Promises We Don't Want Kept," panelist, forum regarding politics of Promise Keepers, sponsored by Coalition of Pro-Choice Organizations, August 19, 1998

"Your Community and Mine," speech, Grand Rapids' Gay Pride Celebration, June 13, 1998

Spectrum Health, provided criminal law and procedure training to security officers for Michigan Private Security Guard licensing, April 6 & 20, 1998, Winter 1996, Summer 1995

"Recruiting, Hiring & Retaining Women Attorneys," moderated panel, Grand Rapids Bar Association's Diversity Summit, March 27, 1998

Lesbian & Gay Community Network of Western Michigan, facilitator for Speakers' Bureau training, January 17, 1998

"Sexual Orientation and the Law," speaker, Lesbian and Gay Community Network of Western Michigan, November 6, 1997

West Michigan Gay Pride Celebration, speaker, June 14, 1997

"Law and Morality," debated proposed laws regarding sexual orientation and family rights, at Grand Rapids Bar Association's Law Day Youth Conference for High School Students, Dominican Center, May 1, 1997

"Obscenity Laws and National Endowment of the Arts Funding," panelist, sponsored by Urban Institute of Contemporary Arts, April 4, 1997
Kent County Healthy Start, trainer for family support workers regarding cultural and legal issues for lesbian and gay families, March 5, 1997 & June 19, 1996
"Obscenity Laws and National Endowment of the Arts," panelist, organized by *Grand Rapids Press*, February 28, 1997
Butterworth Hospital, criminal procedure and criminal law training for private security Peace Officers, 1996 and 1995

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

"Morning Show with Shelley Irwin," WGVU Radio, January 29, 2021

Bostock v Clayton County, interviewed by WOOD TV, NBC affiliate, "Kent County SCOTUS ruling 25 years too late for ousted w Michigan teacher," Barton Deiters, June 16, 2020, <https://www.woodtv.com/news/kent-county/scotus-ruling-25-years-too-late-for-ousted-w-mi-teacher/>

"No Review for Denial of Post-*Obergefell* Equitable Parent Claim," *The Family Law Reporter*, Bloomberg Bureau of National Affairs, interviewed about lesbian client's equitable parent case, August 9, 2016

"Part-time Health - State's Medical Chief Holds Post in Violation of Health Code," interview about Michigan's Public Health law & Flint water crisis, *Lansing City Pulse*, February 10, 2016

"A New Frontier," *The Grand Rapids Press*, interview, lesbian custody case, December 6, 2015

Obergefell v Hodges, interviewed by WZZM, WXMI and *The Grand Rapids Press* regarding United States Supreme Court marriage equality decision, June 26, 27, 2015

"Gay Teacher: Gerry Crane's Story," *Between the Lines*, interviewed by Carol Tanis, June 18, 2015
<http://www.pridesource.com/article.html?article=71990>

Transgender nondiscrimination policy, interview, NBC affiliate WOOD Radio, regarding Midland Planet Fitness' Judgement Free Zone & discontinuation of membership & transgender woman using locker room, Steve Kelly, March 10, 2015

"Story of Gay High School Teacher," interview, *Stateside with Cynthia Canty*, Michigan Public Radio, December 17, 2014

<http://michiganradio.org/post/story-gay-high-school-teacher-illustrate-lack-civil-rights-protections>

"Lesbian is Equitable Parent of Her Non-biological Child," *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*, interviewed by Traci R. Gentilozzi, December 12, 2014

<http://milawyersweekly.com/news/2014/12/12/lesbian-is-equitable-parent-of-her-non-biological-child/#ixzz3dzWNmVbW>

"HIV Disclosure Laws Contested in Several States," interview, *Washington Blade*, March 6, 2013

"People's History of the LGBTQ Community in Grand Rapids," interviewed for documentary produced by the Grand Rapids Institute for Information Democracy, <https://grandrapidslgbthistory.org/> (2012)

"Representation of Arabs and Muslims in American Film," interviewed for documentary, *Tell Me Who I Am - Race Representation in Film*, by Grand Rapids Institute for Information Democracy (2003)

"Benefits for Same-Sex Employees," interview, *The Grand Rapids Press*, July 2, 2000

"Group to Fight Anti-Gay Drive," interview, *The Paper*, June 15-21, 2000

"Group Falls Short in Bid to Overturn Gay Rights Law," interview, *The Grand Rapids Press*, August 10, 2000

"Gays Broaden Base in Battle for Rights," interview, *The Grand Rapids Press*, interview, May 17, 1998

"The State of GLBT Equality in Michigan," *Between the Lines*, March 25-31, 1999

"Activist Group Addresses Civil Rights Demands at Capital," interview, *The State News*, March 19, 1999

"Hate Crimes in West Michigan," panelist, WGVU Radio program, October 26, 1998

"Sexual Harassment of Gay Employees," speaker on 30 minute radio segment to discuss United States Supreme Court decision, *Oncale v Sundowner Offshore Services*, 523 U.S. 75 (1998), WGVU, March 1998

"Promises...Promises..Is There A Hidden Agenda to the Promise Keepers' Mission?," interview, *The Paper*, August 13-20, 1998

"Not On My Block, 30 Years After the Fair Housing Act, Minorities in Grand Rapids Are Still Locked Out," interview, *The Paper*, April 9, 1998

"Where Gays Stand One Year After Gerry Crane's Death," interview, *Freeman Magazine*, January 1998

Between the Lines, named as a 1997 Newsmaker, January 8-21, 1998

"Sexual Orientation Legal Issues," interview, *Freeman Magazine*, November 26, 1997

"Anti-Discrimination Policies," interview, *The Paper*, December 15, 1997

"Sexual Orientation Legal Issues," interview, *Freeman Magazine*, November 26, 1997

"Michigan Hate Crime Law," panelist, WGVU radio program discussing bill to add lesbian and gay protections to Michigan hate crime law, November, 7, 1997

"Gay Issues," interview, WCKS Radio Program *Bookworm*, October 31, 1997

"Domestic Partnership Benefits at Colleges & Universities," interview, Michigan bill to penalize schools which grant domestic partnership benefits, *Holland Sentinel*, September 22, 1997

"Gays in Education," interview, NBC affiliate WOOD TV, Grand Rapids, January 1997

"Michigan Code of Judicial Ethics," interview, ABC affiliate WZZM TV, Grand Rapids, May 1996

People v O.J. Simpson, interview, ABC affiliate WZZM TV, Grand Rapids, Fall 1995

Ask the Lawyer, WGVU TV, fielded family law questions from public

ACADEMIC WORK

Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI, Adjunct Professor, Integrated Studies, Women & Gender Studies, School of Criminal Justice & Legal Studies, Seidman College of Business, certified for online teaching;

Courses Taught

Constitutional Law & Civil Liberties	Life Journeys
Sexual Orientation and the Law	Voices of the Civil Rights Movement
Sexuality, Justice & Advocacy	Legal Research and Writing
Introduction to Gender Studies	Civil Litigation
Intercultural Competence & Communication	Business Law
Diversity in the United States	
GVSU Police Academy: Criminal Law and Procedure, Cultural Diversity	

Davenport College, Grand Rapids, MI, Adjunct Professor, School of Paralegal Studies; taught Civil Procedure & Litigation (1991-1992)

Service - Grand Valley State University

Liaison to the Dean of Students Office for GLBT Issues (1997-2000)
Domestic Partnership Benefits, speaker (2000)
President's Advisory Committee on Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Issues (1996-1999)
"Learning to Talk About Gay & Lesbian Issues," speaker, Leadership Summit (1999)
LGBT Diversity Training, trainer, GVSU housing staff, January 1999
Faculty Advisor, Out 'N' About (Ten Percent of U & Friends), student LGBT organization (1995-1999)
Gay and Lesbian Diversity, speaker, residence halls (1997 & 1998)
"Sexual Orientation Issues for K-12 Teachers," speaker, Minority Teachers Association (1998)
LGBT Diversity Training, Resident & Multicultural Assistants & Security staff (1997)
Human Rights Alliance Campus 2000 Workshop, organized & co-facilitated workshop about LGBT issues in higher education; participants included faculty & staff from GVSU, Grand Rapids Community College, Hope College, Calvin College & Aquinas College (1997)
West Michigan Alliance for Human Rights in Post-Secondary Schools (1995-1997)
"Celebrating Sexuality," speaker, GVSU Women's Festival (1997)
"Homosexuality and Religion," moderator, panel discussion with clergy from Christian Reformed, Catholic, Reformed and Methodist denominations (1997)
"Gay Marriage," speaker, Second Annual Liberation Celebration, Ten Percent of U & Friends, (1996)
Gay & Lesbian Task Force, task force established by President Lubbers to study LGB issues; assisted with drafting final report to President recommending actions relating to students, staff, faculty & curriculum (1994-1995)

COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Healing Children of Conflict, founding member, non-profit organization formed to provide medical treatment for children injured in conflicts involving the United States to seek reconciliation & make restitution by treating innocent victims of U.S. actions; brought Iraqi boy and his father to US for ongoing medical treatment (2008-2018)

Michigan Credentialed Poll Challenger, cohort of Michigan lawyers, presidential elections, 2008-present

LGBTQ New Arrivals Coalition, addressing issues for local LGBTQ refugees and immigrants (2016)

West Michigan Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Chamber of Commerce, founding board member (2014-2015)

HIV Criminalization Group - West Michigan working group to respond to media coverage & educate about Michigan law criminalizing HIV status (2012-2013)

ACLU of Michigan, West Michigan Chapter, served on board (1997-1999) & Lawyers' Committee (2010-2013)

Grand Rapids Response to Hate Coalition (2012)

Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), West Michigan Chapter Co-Chair and Board of Directors (2006-2009)

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Coalition of West Michigan (2003)

Grand Rapids Against Discrimination, co-chair, group formed to oppose "Citizens Voting YES for Equal Rights Not Special Rights" campaign to overturn City gay rights ordinance (2000)

Lesbian & Gay Community Network of Western Michigan, President (1997-1998), Board of Directors (1995-1996)

Grand Rapids Civilian Appeal Board, appointed by Mayor, heard citizen appeals of decisions by Grand Rapids Police Department's Internal Affairs Unit, approximately 1998-1999

Michigan Campaign for Human Dignity, served as co-chair of Legal Committee, statewide organization formed to oppose anti-gay ballot measures (1994)

Michigan Bar Association

- Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity Committee (2002-2003)
- Character & Fitness Committee (early 1990s)
- Gay, Lesbian and Transgender Committee (1998)

Riverside Elementary School PTA, President (1998-1999)

Legal Aid Pro Se Divorce Clinic, Working Committee (1994)

Grand Rapids Bar Association

- Diversity Committee
- Program Committee (1997-1998)
- Legislative Roundtable Committee (1994-1997)
- Pro Bono Committee (1986-1987)

West Michigan Women Lawyers Association, Board of Directors (1986-1987)

Guest Speaker in Courses - LGBT Cultural and Legal Issues

Michigan State University, Marriage & Family Therapy
Western Michigan University, Counseling
Olivet College, Sociology

Grand Valley State University, Criminal Justice, Business, Women and Gender Studies, Sociology, English & Social Work departments
Muskegon Community College, Political Science

Curriculum Development

American Association for Paralegal Education, served on Task Force to development model syllabus for course, Interviewing and Investigation (1995)

Grand Valley State University

Sexual Orientation and the Law, developed and taught course examining LGBTQ legal and policy issues (1997)

Voluntary Action and the Law, obtained grant, Center on Philanthropy & Nonprofit Leadership, developed course about the role of social justice nonprofit organizations in the evolution of the law (1994)

Legal Studies Program, evaluated and revised curriculum (1994)

Textbook Reviews

West Publishing Company - A Practical Guide to Family Law, Women and the Law, Legal Research and Writing, Writing for Legal Assistants, and Legal Research

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Michigan Bar Association

Council Member, LGBT Law Section

Authors Guild