

All welcome to a Baldy Center Working Group on
Children, Families, and the Law



Presentation

Friday, April 3, 2009

10:00 – 11:30 am 509 O’Brian Hall

RSVP to Anita Mazurek, amazurek@buffalo.edu or 645-2102

Paper available from Baldy Center

Introduced by Sara Faherty, UB Law, and Suzanne Tomkins, UB Law

Caring and Cleaning in the Home: Shared Problems? Shared Possibilities?



Laura Dresser

Associate Director, Center of Wisconsin Strategy (COWS),
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Hundreds of thousands of American women head into the home each day to work, cleaning homes and caring for the young, the frail and the elderly inside them. The home as a worksite brings into focus the many things that this disparate workforce of housekeepers, home health aides, and child care providers share in terms of the structure and quality of work. These are some of our nation's least regarded, protected, or rewarded workers, toiling for substandard wages in relative isolation. Even so, some of the most promising innovation in improving low-wage jobs has been generated in these jobs. This presentation will offer a hard look at in-home work and the promising strategies to make it better.

Dr. Laura Dresser (BA, Rice University; MSW, PhD, University of Michigan) is Associate Director of COWS. A labor economist and expert on low-wage work and workforce development systems, she has both written about ways to build stronger labor market systems and worked extensively with labor, business, and community leaders in building them. Laura has written widely on race and gender inequality and labor market reform. She is most recently co-editor of *The Gloves-Off Economy: Workplace Standards at the Bottom of America's Labor Market*

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