



Call 1983 QC 2008  
BA (Hons)

**Alison H Russell QC**

#### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Alison Russell's practice is principally in Public Law and surrounding legislation, particularly Human Rights and the rights of children. She has specialist expertise in cases which concern child fatalities and the consequent placement of surviving siblings; specifically in cases involving illness or symptoms fabricated or induced by parents or carers (formerly Munchausen's Syndrome by proxy) and brain injury (Shaken Baby Syndrome).

She also practises in the following areas: the inherent jurisdiction of the High Court and its application to protect children and their families; the development of the jurisdiction including the restriction of publicity and revocation of adoption orders; mental capacity and incapacity including disputes over the care and medical treatment of adults; judicial review of administrative decisions involving the care and funding of children in care or looked after by local authorities; and international law including the conflict of family law in foreign jurisdictions with English law and the implementation of international conventions including the Hague Convention.

Ms Russell has a particular interest in cases involving domestic violence, its effects and the safeguarding of women and children. She has had wide experience of cases which involved issues of cultural, religious, sexual and physical diversity.

#### APPOINTMENTS

Recorder (Public & Private Family) 2007  
Recorder (Crime) 2004

#### MEMBERSHIPS

Family Law Bar Association

#### REPORTED CASES

Re K (A Local Authority) -v- N and Others [2005] EWHC 2956 (Fam) [2007] 1 FLR 399  
Care proceedings - Supervision order - Wardship - Sixteen-year-old child - Whether to make child ward of court  
- Whether to prohibit marriage and travel outside jurisdiction - Impact of cultural and religious considerations on threshold assessment

Re S (A Child) (Identification: Restriction on Publication) [2003] EWCA Civ 963 [2004] Fam 43 (CA)  
[2004] UKHL 47 [2005] 1 FLR 591 (HL)

Children - Court's inherent jurisdiction - Restriction on publication - Parent charged with murder of son - Injunction to restrict reporting of criminal trial by prohibiting identification of defendant and victim in order to protect privacy of surviving child - Whether jurisdiction to grant - Balance of Convention rights to respect for family and private life and to freedom of expression - Whether injunction to be granted - Human Rights Act 1998 (c 42), s. 12(4), Sch. 1, Pt I, arts 8 and 10

Re D (Sexual Abuse Allegations: Evidence of Adult Victim) [2002] 1 FLR 723

Care - Family members - Sexual abuse allegations - Alleged victim now adult - Reliability of evidence  
Evidence - Sexual abuse allegations - Alleged victim now adult - Adults normally required to give evidence

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