



THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM  
FACULTY OF LAW

**The Clinical Legal Education Center  
for Human Rights and Social Responsibility**

- Law is not merely a means to resolving disputes, but also a vehicle for social change and therefore should be accessible to all;
- One cannot learn about human rights by only reading legal texts. One has to go out into the field and meet those whose rights are affected;
- We have to promote a sense of social responsibility in our alumni
- It is our obligation to assist the less fortunate.

Based on these principles the Faculty of Law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem established the Clinical Legal Education (CLE) Center for Human Rights and Social Responsibility in 2003.

The CLE provides high quality legal aid, free of charge to underprivileged individuals and groups, and at the same time educates the future generation of the Israeli legal elite to social responsibility as part of legal professionalism.

Society gains twice: disadvantaged people get valuable legal aid and are empowered while the legal community is enriched with knowledge, sensitivity and comprehension of the unique skills necessary to protect and further human rights.

A great advantage of the Clinics is that it avoids all bureaucracy, often a characteristic of organizations which offer help to the underprivileged. The students and lawyers provide their clients legal assistance throughout the process; from the first consultation until the final outcome. Emphasis is placed on providing a high quality service to those of limited means in order to give them equal opportunities in relation to those who can afford the high prices of good legal services.

One third of the student body of the Law Faculty is active in the Law Clinics. In addition to six hours per week of practical work, students participate in weekly classes where they are taught the essential legal knowledge and tools necessary for clinical work in the field. These classes also provide a platform to discuss the social, cultural and ethical aspects of their work. In addition, the students gain further insights into their work through cooperation with professionals from other disciplines, such as community activists, social workers and physicians. The students are closely supervised by an experienced team of lawyers who operate the various clinics.



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**In the coming Academic year the CLE will operate 12 Clinical programs throughout the country with 160 students enrolled in the programs.**

***The Youth Representation Program:*** The Clinic provides legal aid and therapeutic treatment to at-risk youth ranging from basic legal assistance to school dropouts to legal representation in various legal forums;

***The “Street Law” Program:*** Provides legal education workshops on the subject of rights and obligations to at-risk teens being treated in various institutions;

***The Women Empowerment by Knowledge Program:*** A new clinic. Empowering workshops for disempowered women from minority groups. The women-students partnership aims to make these women agents for social change in their surroundings;

***The Program for the Protection of Women's Rights in the Workplace:*** Provides legal advice and aid for women who have suffered discrimination in the workplace;

***The Criminal Justice Clinic Program:*** provides legal assistance and representation to criminal defendants who cannot afford legal representation. Focuses on a holistic, culture-sensitive approach to representation.

***The Program for the Protection of the Environment:*** Environmental advocacy including the social aspect (e.g. asbestos hazards near a school in an underprivileged neighborhood). The Clinic also engages in policy-making in the field;

***The Program for Legal Aid in Conflict Areas: Sderot:*** As a result of the reality of Sderot in recent years and the problems stemming from the security situation, this Clinic was established to provide an immediate answer to the legal issues facing the residents of this area living in these unusual circumstances.

***The Law and immigration Program:*** A community based clinic dealing with immigration to Israel, mostly from Africa (Ethiopia). An interdisciplinary program, that integrates in its work approaches from the world of social work;

***The Community lawyering Program:*** Facilitates accessibility to the courts and protects the rights of individuals and groups in deprived communities in Jerusalem, including underprivileged neighborhoods, the elderly and the ultra-orthodox community;

***Legal Empowerment for Youth in the Arab Sector:*** An innovative project, based on community lawyering, which provides legal assistance and education to youth in the Arab neighborhoods of East Jerusalem;

***The Program for Empowerment of Human Rights Organizations in Israel:*** Integrates students into the various human rights organizations in Israel where they are involved;

***The Program for a Quality Government:*** (in conjunction with the Movement for a Quality Government): Exposes law students to the corruption and unethical behavior prevalent in the public sector. The Clinic gives students an opportunity to use their acquired legal skills to promote active involvement in civic causes;