

## Andy Izenson, Esq. LGBTQIA+ Family Lawyer & Educator



Andy Izenson (they/them) is Senior Legal Director for [Chosen Family Law Center, Inc.](#) and Partner at [Diana Adams Law & Mediation, PLLC.](#) both based in New York City. Andy also works with and advocates for LGBTQIA+, polyamorous, and non-nuclear families as the Clinical Instructor on Policy at the [LGBTQ+ Advocacy Clinic at Harvard Law School.](#)

Andy is a thought leader on LGBTQIA+ issues, and a popular speaker available to give talks on issues including same-sex marriage; transgender and gender non-conforming youth issues; the Supreme Court and the fate of LGBTQIA+ Americans; cultural competency and sensitivity for attorneys and other professionals serving transgender and gender non-conforming clients; digital and operational security for LGBTQIA+ advocates, the landscape of anti-trans and sanctuary legislation, and opportunities for corporate leadership with LGBTQIA+ employees.

### Transgender and LGBTQIA+ Cultural Competency

Andy is an outspoken leader in transgender advocacy and cultural competency training. They teach many CLEs and workshops on cultural sensitivity and legal topics for those serving LGBTQIA+ communities, and consult directly with organizations. Clients and audiences include private businesses, community groups, medical and educational organizations, law schools, and legal associations.

- *“Representing the Transgender Client Through the Arc of Life”* presented to the New York City Bar Association
- *“Non-binary and Intersex Rights: Explosion of Growth; Vacuum of Understanding”* presented with a panel at the 2018 Lavender Law Conference
- *“Transitioning Families: Serving the Needs of Queer & Transgender Clients in Family & Divorce Mediation”* presented to the Family & Divorce Mediation Council of Greater New York
- *“How To Be Nice To Trans People”* presented at the World Fellowship Center

### Polyamory, Evolving Family Structures and Non-Nuclear Family Law

Andy is a leader in support of polyamorous families and non-nuclear family structures. Andy is passionately dedicated to supporting family self-determination and interdependence, whether between couples, platonic co-parents, polyamorous families, or networks of queer kinship, by facilitating conversations that support the creation of clear and informed legal and extralegal agreements.

- *Polyamory and the Future of Marriage* has been presented at the LGBT Bar Association Conference, Goldman Sachs, OUTProfessionals, and Harvard and Yale Law Schools.
- Panel on *“Where Do We Go From Here? A Roundtable Discussion on Future Fronts in the Battles for Family Diversity”* presented at the [After Marriage Conference: The Future of LGBTQIA Politics and Scholarship](#) at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. The full recorded presentation is available on YouTube [here](#).
- *“The Polyamorous Tipping Point”* presented at 2023 LGBT Bar Association Conference
- *Breaking Barriers: Legislative Advocacy for Queer, Transgender, and Polyamorous Families* on [The Bonding Hour](#)
- Andy was invited to present to the New York City Council’s Legislative Division in February 2025 about how NYC can further protect our human and civil rights by becoming a fortress for LGBTQIA+ and non-nuclear families.

### Transformative Justice, Mediation, and Conflict Resolution

Andy is a trained mediator and collaborative lawyer who utilizes these skills to bring peace and respect to family transitions, and to support collaborative and de-escalated conflict resolution in other contexts. Andy has extensive training in alternative dispute resolution and justice systems, including as a mediator through the NY Center for Interpersonal Development, as a collaborative attorney through the NY Association of Collaborative Professionals, in facilitating Newburgh Model Restorative Justice processes through the Restorative Center, and in transformative justice processes by Dr. Mimi Kim and Kay Pranis.

- *“Queering the Law: Mediation and Collaborative Law and the Movement Towards Peacemaking”* presented at Columbia School of Public Health
- *“Tear Down the Prison in Your Head: Restorative and Transformative Justice in Practice and in Context”* presented at the World Fellowship Center

### Title IX-Compliance, Consent, and Sexual Assault Prevention

Andy has extensive experience teaching Title IX compliance, consent, student safety, and sexual assault prevention on college campuses, including the Cooper Union and Columbia University, as well as for workplace environments and other businesses, organizations, and community groups.