

## Elizabeth Wark

Called: 2018



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## Practice Overview

**Elizabeth Wark -Ranked: Rising Star-FAMILY: CHILDREN AND DOMESTIC ABUSE** - 'Elizabeth has great communication skills and is very approachable. She is very good at getting to the heart of a case.' **Legal 500**

**Elizabeth practises across all areas of family law:**

Financial Remedies Nuptial Agreements Private Children Public Children Schedule 1 Children Act 1989 Family Law Act 1996

Elizabeth is frequently instructed to appear in contentious Fact-Finding Hearings and Final Hearings, in both private and public children proceedings, with a focus on those which involve serious allegations of domestic abuse and neglect.

In public law cases, Elizabeth acts both for parents and for Local Authorities.

**Elizabeth practises in civil law and chancery:**

Cohabitation / Trusts of Land & Appointment of Trustees Act 1996 Cases involving claims about Undue Influence & Duress

### Seminars

**2020:** 'Forgery: General Principles, Practice and Procedure' **2021:** Setting Aside a Financial Remedy Order - Where Are We Now? A Look at Current Law and Practice in Light of BT v. CU (2021) EWFC 87 **2022:** Where are we now? The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 & Case Update. Delivered alongside Anushka Kangesu **2024:** Current Issues in Modest Asset Cases: Part 1. Delivered alongside Laurence Cooper. Considered two issues (i) What's in the Pot? 'matrimonialisation' after Standish v Standish [2024] EWCA 567 and (ii) The 'Chimera' Problem - Family Loans & Resources **2024:** in house seminar to a firm of solicitors on 'relocation' **2024:** Speaker - Introduction to Mooting Workshop -City Women in Law Society -City Uni **2024** -Judge -Student Mooting Competition -City Women in Law Society -City Uni

**2025:** in house seminar to a firm of solicitors on Nuptial Agreements. **2025** - Current Issues in Modest Asset Cases: Part 2. Delivered alongside Laurence Cooper. Consideration of (i) Conduct (ii) Costs and (iii) Non-Court Dispute Resolution. **2025:** forthcoming -in house seminar to a firm of solicitors to provide a public law update

Elizabeth is available to deliver tailored seminars to solicitors to assist with individual training needs. These may be arranged either in person or via remote (video) link. Please contact the clerks to arrange.

### Articles

'Setting Aside a Financial Remedy Consent Order in Covid Pandemic Times' on the Transparency Project Blog, August 2021 -'<https://transparencyproject.org.uk/setting-aside-a-financial-remedy-consent-order-in-covid-pandemic-times-hw-ww2021-ewfc-b20/> Setting Aside a Financial Remedy Order -Where Are We Now? A Look at Current Law and Practice in Light of BT v. CU (2021) EWFC 87. This was a two-part article, published in the March and April 2022 edition of Lexis Family Law. *Final Divorce Orders -a 'Particular Category'*, Transparency Project Blog August 2024 - <https://transparencyproject.org.uk/final-divorce-orders-a-particular-category/> 'The Latest on Nuptial Agreements: Three Recent Cases, Part 1' -December 2024 -Lexis Family Law -

[https://www.familylaw.co.uk/news\\_and\\_comment/the-latest-on-nuptial-agreements--three-recent-cases--part-1](https://www.familylaw.co.uk/news_and_comment/the-latest-on-nuptial-agreements--three-recent-cases--part-1)  
 'The Latest on Nuptial Agreement: Three Recent Cases -Part 2' -January 2025 -Lexis Family Law -  
[https://www.familylaw.co.uk/news\\_and\\_comment/the-latest-on-nuptial-agreements--three-recent-cases-part-2--key-practice-points](https://www.familylaw.co.uk/news_and_comment/the-latest-on-nuptial-agreements--three-recent-cases-part-2--key-practice-points)  
 'Final Curtains at the Intermission? Final Orders at Interim Hearings -When and Why -Part 1' -May 2025 -Lexis Family Law -You can access the full article here. Forthcoming -'Final Curtains at the Intermission? Final Orders at Interim Hearings -When and Why -Part 1' -June 2025 -Lexis Family Law

## **Advocacy**

January 2022 -Vulnerable Witness Training -Family Law Bar Association, London March 2022 - *Advocacy Skills Workshop* -*Australian Advocacy Institute, Sydney* September 2022 - *Advanced International Advocacy Course, Keble College, Oxford* January 2024 -*Advanced Trial Advocacy, Australian Bar Association, Sydney* Forthcoming -May 2025 -*Advanced Trial Advocacy, Trial Lawyers Section of the Florida Bar, Levin College of Law, University of Florida.*

## **Other Roles**

London Resolution Committee 3DJB Marketing Committee 3DJB Pupillage Committee 3DJB Mini-Pupillage Coordinator

## **Previous Professional & Advocacy Experience**

Prior to coming to the Bar, Elizabeth practised as a Registered Nurse at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in her hometown of Sydney, Australia. She completed a two-year post-graduate training programme in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

This experience gives Elizabeth a unique insight into complex family problems and the difficulties individuals have in navigating the system when dealing with extreme stress, trauma and mental or physical ill health. Elizabeth represented Middle Temple Inn at the European Universities Debating Championship in 2017, University College London at the World Universities Debating Championship in 2018, and was secretary of the Middle Temple moot team at the 2017 Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Competition. In 2015-16 whilst undertaking the BPTC Elizabeth volunteered on the Vocalise pro-bono scheme which involved teaching debating in schools and prisons.

Her broad interests are reflected by various summer internships, including at the Bar Pro Bono Unit (now 'Advocate'), M&Eacute;decins Sans Fronti&egrave;res in Madrid and ACI (The Financial Markets Association). Elizabeth takes on pro-bono work for Advocate as and when she is able.

## **Qualifications**

Bachelor of Nursing, University of Technology, Sydney  
 Graduate Diploma in Law, City University, London (Commendation)  
 Bar Professional Training Course, City University, London (Very Competent)  
 LLM (International Commercial Law), UCL (Distinction)

## **Memberships**

Honourable Society of Middle Temple  
 Resolution  
 Family Law Bar Association  
 Anglo-Australasian Lawyers Society  
*Britain-Australia Society*  
 Association of Lawyers for Children  
 Royal Over-Seas League

## **Areas of Practice**

**Family**



Domestic Violence  
Family Finance  
Public Children Law  
Private Children Law

**Civil**

Contract, Company and Commercial  
Chancery

**Other Interests**

Outside of the law, Elizabeth enjoys travel and medium distance running. She ran in the London Landmarks Half Marathon in 2021 to raise money for Advocate.