



## Happy Chinese New Year 2021!

Kung Hei Fat Choi! CUHK LAW wishes everyone a healthy, happy and prosperous Year of the Ox!

## 2021 新春快樂！

恭喜發財！中大法律學院祝賀所有朋友牛年快樂，身體健康，萬事如意！



## City University School of Law Students Shared Love and Warmth With Children Witnesses of Domestic Violence and Children From Low-income Families During the Christmas Season – “See You Zoom See You Soon” Online English Storytelling Classes and Christmas Party

Since 2015, CityU law students and alumni have been participating in a number of service projects for children and teenager witnesses of domestic violence living at Serene Court, a women’s shelter for domestic violence victims, of the Christian Family Services Centre (“CFSC”). Such projects included School of Law students and alumni acting as mentors and accompanying these children to purchase books at the Hong Kong Book Fair, a mentoring scheme for secondary school students and Christmas parties. These activities have benefited more than 200 children and teenagers, allowing them to feel the love and concerns from the volunteers while living in the shadows of domestic violence.



An online English storytelling session with 2 law students as teachers and children from Tin Shui Wai.

2 位法律學生作為線上英語故事班導師，教導一群居住在天水圍的兒童。

## 城大法律學院學生於聖誕假期間予目睹家暴兒童及低收入家庭兒童分享愛與關懷

## 「See You Zoom See You Soon」線上英語故事班及聖誕聯歡會

基督教家庭服務中心轄下的恬寧居婦女庇護中心乃是一個專為受家暴影響婦女而設的庇護中心。自 2015 年起，城大法律學院學生及校友已積極參與為現居或曾居於恬寧居的兒童及青少年舉辦的不同義工服務，這包括城大法律系學生及校友當導師陪伴學童於書展選購課外書、中學生師友計劃及聖誕聯歡會等。這些活動讓超過 200 位兒童及青少年受惠，讓他們在家庭暴力的陰霾下，能夠從義工身上感受到關愛。

In the past year, the Covid-19 epidemic has not diminished the enthusiasm of CityU law students for public service. In September 2020, a number of law students attended a webinar jointly organized by the CityU School of Law Students' Professional Development and Public Service Programme ("the Public Service Programme") and the Children Family Services Division of CFSC to understand the needs of children witnesses of domestic violence as well as underprivileged and ethnic minority children. After this seminar, children from four families received online private tutoring from the law students for three months. This enabled the children to receive adequate learning support despite their lack of resources.

During the past Christmas and New Year break, the Public Service Programme joined hands with Serene Court and Tin Shui Wai Community Centre of CFSC again to serve the children in need in an activity entitled "See You Zoom See You Soon." In this activity, 23 CityU law students provided a total of 12 online English storytelling sessions to some children witnesses of domestic violence staying or used to stay at Serene Court and children from low-income families living in Tin Shui Wai. 43 children participated in this activity. In each session, two volunteers read English story books around the themes of Christmas and good morals to a small group of children. Volunteers did not simply tell the stories but also encourage the children to reflect upon and discuss in English their thoughts on the contents and morals in these stories. Some of the stories were specially chosen in light of the needs of the participants. For example, most children affected by domestic violence lack confidence in their interactions with others. By discussing the book "If You Give A Moose A Muffin", volunteers highlighted the importance of establishing trust in human relationships. They also shared their own experience in developing trusts in their friends thus providing a role model for these children.



An online Christmas party for children in Tin Shui Wai.  
為居住在天水圍的兒童舉辦的線上聖誕聯歡會。

在過去一年，城市大學法律系學生參與服務的熱情並沒有受到疫情影響而減退。在 2020 年 9 月，一群法律系學生參與了由城大法律學院學生專業發展及公共服務課程（「公共服務課程」）及基督教家庭服務中心兒童及家庭服務部舉辦的一個網上研討會，了解目睹家暴兒童、低收入家庭兒童及少數族裔兒童之需要。及後更有四個家庭之兒童獲得義工提供為期三個月的線上私人補習，讓兒童在匱乏的資源下仍能獲得適切的學習援助。

公共服務課程在剛過去的聖誕節再度與基督教家庭服務中心的恬寧居及天水圍社區服務處合辦一個名為「See You Zoom See You Soon」的活動服務有需要的兒童。是次活動有 23 位城大法律系學生參加。他們於聖誕及新年假期間提供了合共 12 堂的線上英語故事班予 43 位現居或曾居於恬寧居的目睹家暴兒童及居住於天水圍之低收入家庭兒童。每堂故事班均有兩位義工跟小朋友讀有關聖誕節及德育為主題的英語故事書。除了講故事之外，義工們還特意鼓勵兒童反思及用英語討論他們對這些故事內容的看法及從中學到的道理。其中有些故事是特別根據參與兒童的需要而選擇的，例如，受家暴影響的兒童往往會在與人的交往中缺乏信心。透過討論「If You Give a Moose A Muffin」這本故事書，義工帶出人與人相處時要建立信任的重要性，義工們亦在討論中分享自己與朋友間互相信任的經驗，成為兒童的榜樣。

We have received very positive comments from both the children participants and volunteers. According to the children's feedback questionnaire received by the Tin Shui Wai Community Centre, 100% of the participants agreed that this activity had helped them learn new English words and increased their interest in English. All of them were satisfied with this event and the performance by the volunteers. According to the feedback from the law student volunteers, most of them indicated that they felt happy in the service process and found this experience very meaningful as they could help children in need and bring them joy. They were grateful for the opportunity to participate in this activity and had learnt how to interact with children and be more patient. In particular, one law student wrote that through participating in this activity, "I was able to understand more about the less privileged." Another wrote "I got to understand more about the children's situation, thus making me appreciate the things that I have right now."

Besides the storytelling sessions, on Christmas Eve, Mrs. Fung, Adjunct Professor and founder of the Public Service Programme and volunteers also helped in an online Christmas party for the children in Tin Shui Wai. Activities in this party included singing of Christmas songs, story-telling and an art and craft session where each child made a Christmas tree. Hand-made Christmas cards and presents were also prepared and given to the children at Serene Court and in Tin Shui Wai. Hopefully all the time spent by the law students with the children together with the Christmas cards and presents could bring warmth to these children amidst the cold weather during this joyful Christmas season even though we all had to stay at home!



Children in Tin Shui Wai received presents prepared for them with love from the volunteers.  
居住在天水圍的兒童收到義工用心親手準備的聖誕禮物。

參與是次活動的兒童及義工均給予這次活動非常正面的回應。根據天水圍社區服務處所收回的兒童回應表，所有參加的兒童同意活動可以讓他們認識到新的英文生字及提升學習英語的興趣，他們都很滿意是次活動及義工的表現。而根據法學院學生義工的回應表，大部份義工都形容參與是次服務很開心，而且覺得是次活動非常有意義，因為他們能夠幫助有需要的兒童並為他們帶來歡樂，他們感恩有機會參與其中，並從中學會如何與兒童相處及訓練耐性。其中有一位法律學生指出：「我透過是次活動能了解更多弱勢社群的情況及需要。」而另一位學生表示：「我對於這些兒童的處境有更多的了解，從而使我懂得欣賞及珍惜我目前所擁有的東西。」

除了線上英語故事班外，公共服務課程創辦人兼客座教授馮女士及義工也幫忙與天水圍社區服務處為居住在天水圍的兒童舉辦了一個線上聖誕聯歡會，當中活動包括唱聖誕歌、講故事及製作聖誕樹的環節。他們更為居住於恬寧居及天水圍的兒童親手準備了聖誕卡及禮物。希望這群小朋友收到這些聖誕卡及禮物後，就算在寒冷的天氣下都能夠在家中享受一個愉快的聖誕節吧！

## The University of Law

On 30th November 2020, The University of Law hosted a talk, as part of the Speaker Series, which was presented by Sharon Ser and Rita Ku of Withersworldwide.

Sharon is a Partner in the divorce and family team. She has been in Hong Kong for over 30 years and has worked on some of the most interesting family cases in the region. She focuses mainly on family matters and international divorce cases involving jurisdiction arguments and financial issues and it is some of these cases that were discussed during the talk.

Rita has practiced in Hong Kong for over 15 years, with many of her cases being very high profile and cross border cases, particularly with the PRC, such as *ML v YJ* [2010] HKEC 1924, which went to the Court of Final Appeal. This case changed the law in Hong Kong in respect of a party's ability to apply for financial provision following a foreign decree.

Both lawyers shared what motivated them to enter the legal profession, the challenges they've faced, the interesting legal issues of jurisdiction, financial provision and recognizing contribution that is not financial, how children and parents from unmarried relationships fare in HK and many more family law issues facing their clients and the courts.

2020年11月30日，英國法律大學 (ULaw) 的講座系列舉辦了新一場演講，講者是來自 Withersworldwide 的 Sharon Ser 和 Rita Ku。

Sharon 是離婚和家事團隊的合夥人，在本港已經居住了逾 30 年，曾承接過本地一些非常值得討論的家庭案件。她的工作範疇主要涉及家庭事務和國際離婚個案，包括管轄權爭議和財政問題，今次演講亦借用了其中一部分案件作為討論例子。

至於 Rita 則在香港執業了超過 15 年，曾經承接過很多備受外界關注的個案，其中有些更是與中國有關的跨境案件，包括需要提交至終審法院審理的 *ML v YJ* [2010] HKEC 1924。這宗案件改變了在香港法律下，當事方可否根據外國法令申請財政撥備的能力。

演講期間，兩位律師均分享了推動他們投身法律專業界別的原因、過程中面對過的挑戰、管轄權、財政撥備和非財政認可捐獻在法律上的有趣事項、香港未婚父母和子女的遭遇，以及更多有關他們客戶和法院所面對的家事法問題。