

## **Media Web Briefing**

## The Supreme Court, Birth Control, and Religious Freedom: Implications of *Zubik v. Burwell*

Wednesday, March 16, 2016
Panelist Biographies

**Lyle Denniston** is the senior news reporter covering the United States Supreme Court. He has been doing so since 1958. Most of his career has been with newspapers, including *The Washington Star, Baltimore Sun, Wall Street Journal* and *Boston Globe*. For the past 12 years, he has been writing for scotusblog.com, an online clearing house of information about the Supreme Court. He also serves currently as the adviser on constitutional literacy for the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, and writes twice weekly for its blog site, *Constitution Daily*. He has been a journalist since 1948. He has received numerous honors; most recently, he was the inaugural winner of the Burton Foundation prize for legal journalism. He has taught at a number of colleges and universities. His book, *The Reporter and the Law: Techniques of Covering the Courts,* is still widely used in newsrooms and in academic classrooms in journalism.

Marci A. Hamilton is one of the United States' leading church/state scholars and holds the Paul R. Verkuil Chair in Public Law at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University. She is a Senior Fellow in the Fox Leadership Program at the University of Pennsylvania, where she Co-Chairs the Common Ground for Common Good ("C2G2") project, part of Penn's Program for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society. She is also the Academic Curator for the National Constitution Center's 2015 Religious Liberty Exhibit and a contributor to the National Constitution Center's Interactive Constitution project. Hamilton clerked for United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Judge Edward R. Becker of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. She successfully challenged the constitutionality of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act ("RFRA") at the Supreme Court in Boerne v. Flores, 521 U.S. 507 (1997). She also hosts www.RFRAperils.com, which tracks and analyzes free exercise statutes in all 50 states and the federal government. Hamilton is the author of *God vs. the Gavel: The Perils of Extreme Religious* Liberty (Cambridge University Press 2014), which was nominated for a 2015 Pulitzer Prize; Justice Denied: What America Must Do to Protect Its Children (2008, 2nd ed., forthcoming 2016); God vs. the Gavel: Religion and the Rule of Law (2005); and the co-editor of Fundamentalism, Politics and the Law (with Mark Rozell 2011); and numerous scholarly articles. She is also a bi-monthly columnist for www.justia.com/verdict. Her blog with Professor Leslie Griffin on religious liberty, women's rights, and children's rights can be found at http://www.hamilton-Griffin.com. Professor Hamilton is a graduate of Vanderbilt University, B.A., summa cum laude; Pennsylvania State University, M.A. (English, fiction writing, High Honors); M.A. (Philosophy); and the University of Pennsylvania School of Law, J.D., magna cum laude, where she served as Editor-in-Chief of the University of Pennsylvania Law Review. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Order of the Coif.

**Alina Salganicoff** is Vice President and Director of Women's Health Policy for the Kaiser Family Foundation. She directs the foundation's work on health coverage and access to care for women, with an emphasis on challenges facing underserved women throughout their lives. Her current work focuses on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act as it affects women, reproductive health care access, and health care disparities. Widely regarded as an expert on women's health policy, Dr. Salganicoff has written and lectured extensively on health care access and financing for low-income women and children. Dr. Salganicoff was also an Associate Director of the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured and specialized on coverage and access issues facing low-income families, Medicaid managed care, and state health reform. Over her career, Dr. Salganicoff has served as an advisor to many federal and state agencies and nonprofits. She was appointed to serve on the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Committee on Women's Health Research and the IOM Committee on Preventive Services for Women. She currently is on the Steering Committee for the VA's Women's Health Research Consortium, the Public Policy Advisory Committee of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unintended Pregnancy, and the Board of the California Family Health Council. Dr. Salganicoff holds a B.S. from the Pennsylvania State University and Ph.D. in Health Policy from the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health.

**Laurie Sobel** is a Senior Policy Analyst for Women's Health Policy at the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. Her work addresses the impact of major health policy issues on women and girls, with an emphasis on insurance coverage, access to care, and low-income populations. In particular, her work aims to understand how federal, state, and local policies, including national health care reform and reproductive health policies, influence health and access to services for women. Prior to joining the Foundation, she was a Senior Attorney at Consumers Union focused on health policy issues. Early in her career, she was a legal aid lawyer representing Medicaid patients. Ms. Sobel holds a J.D. from UCLA School of Law and a B.S. from Cornell University.