



**APPÉLREGTER
BELINDA (BJ) VAN HEERDEN**



Inaugural Lecture

**'CHICKEN SOUP JURISPRUDENCE':
IMPLEMENTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN SOUTH AFRICA**



Die Raad en die Senaat van die Universiteit van die Vrystaat het die eer om u uit te nooi na die intreerede van

APPÈLREGTER BELINDA (B.J.) VAN HEERDEN
B.A. (Stell. 1979), LL.B. (Stell. 1981), B.A. (Hons. Jurisprudence)
(Oxon. 1984), M.A. (Oxon. 1989)

Departement Straf- en Geneeskundige Reg,
Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid, Universiteit van die Vrystaat

Onderwerp:

**'CHICKEN SOUP JURISPRUDENCE': IMPLEMENTING CHILDREN'S
RIGHTS IN SOUTH AFRICA**

in die
AUDITORIUM, C.R. SWARTGEBOU, UV,

op
DINSDAG, 1 SEPTEMBER 2009,
om 19:00

Verversings sal na afloop van die intreerede bedien word.

R.S.V.P. voor of op Dinsdag 25 Augustus 2009 aan Fred Kruger,
tel.: (051) 401-9300, of e-pos: krugerfj.rd@ufs.ac.za

Belinda van Heerden het in die Wes-Kaap groot geword. Sy studeer aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch, waar sy in 1979 'n B.A.-graad en in 1981 'n LL.B.-graad behaal, beide summa cum laude. Sy ontvang aan die einde van haar finale LL.B.-jaar die Kanseliersmedalje. Sy studeer aan die Universiteit van Oxford as 'n "South Africa-at-Large Rhodes Scholar", waar sy in 1984 gradueer. Vanaf 1985 tot 1989 doseer sy Privaatreg aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch en daarna aan die Universiteit van Kaapstad. In 1989 behaal sy 'n Meestersgraad aan die Universiteit van Oxford en praktiseer vanaf 1992 tot 1994 as prokureur by 'n regsfirmat in Kaapstad. In 1995 sluit sy weer by die Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid van die Universiteit van Kaapstad aan, waar sy in 1996 tot medeprofessor en in 1999 tot professor bevorder word. Hierna word sy in 2000 as regter in die Kaapse Hooggeregshof aangestel en in 2004 as regter in die Hoogste Hof van Appèl. In 2006 dien sy as waarnemende Regter in die Konstitusionele Hof.

Een van Regter Van Heerden se belangstellingsvelde, waarin sy haar as kenner gevestig het is kinder- en familiereg (veral kinderregte en geslagsgelykheidkwessies). Vanaf 1997 tot 1999 tree sy as projekteer op van die Suid-Afrikaanse Regskommissie se Projekkomitee vir die Hersiening van die Wet op Kindersorg, 1983. Regter van Heerden is as ere-professor aangestel in die Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid van die Universiteit van Kaapstad in 2004, die Universiteit van Stellenbosch in 2007, die Universiteit van Pretoria en die Universiteit van die Vrystaat in 2008. Sy is mede-outeur van drie boeke oor kinder- en familiereg en het verskeie artikels hieroor in regstydskrifte gepubliseer. Sy het verder 'n besondere belangstelling in kontrakreg en het verskeie lesings hieroor gelewer en publikasies die lig laat sien.

Sy is getroud met William McMurray, 'n elektriese ingenieur, en hulle woon in Kaapstad.

The Council and Senate of the University of the Free State are honoured to invite you to the inaugural lecture of

JUDGE OF APPEAL BELINDA (B.J.) VAN HEERDEN
B.A. (Stell. 1979), LL.B. (Stell. 1981), B.A. (Hons. Jurisprudence)
(Oxon. 1984), M.A. (Oxon. 1989)

Department Criminal and Medical Law,
Faculty of Law, University of the Free State

Subject:

**'CHICKEN SOUP JURISPRUDENCE': IMPLEMENTING CHILDREN'S
RIGHTS IN SOUTH AFRICA**

in the
AUDITORIUM, C.R. SWART BUILDING, UFS

on
TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2009
at 19:00

Refreshments will be served after the inaugural lecture

R.S.V.P. before or on Tuesday 25 August 2009 to Fred Kruger,
tel: (051) 401-9300 or e-mail: krugerfj.rd@ufs.ac.za

Belinda van Heerden grew up in the Western Cape. She studied at Stellenbosch University, where she graduated B.A. in 1979 and LL.B. in 1981, both magna cum laude. She was awarded the Chancellor's Medal at the end of her final LL.B. year. She went to Oxford University as a South Africa-at-Large Rhodes Scholar, graduating in July 1984. From 1985 to 1989 she lectured in Private Law at Stellenbosch University and subsequently at the University of Cape Town. She obtained her Masters degree at the University of Oxford in 1989 and practised as an attorney at a Cape Town law firm from 1992 to 1994. In January 1995, she rejoined the Law Faculty of the University of Cape Town. In 1996 she was promoted to Associate Professor and, in 1999, to Professor. Hereafter she was appointed as Judge of the Cape High Court in 2000 and in 2004 was appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal. In 2006 she served as an acting Justice of the Constitutional Court.

One of Judge Van Heerden's spheres of interest and expertise is child and family law (especially children's rights and gender equality issues). From 1997 until 1999, she served as the Project Leader of the South African Law Commission Project Committee on the Review of the Child Care Act, 1983. Judge van Heerden was appointed as Honorary Professor in the Law Faculty of the University of Cape Town in 2004, of the University of Stellenbosch in 2007, as well as of the Universities of Pretoria and of the Free State in 2008. She has co-authored three books on child and family law and has published a substantial number of articles in legal journals in this sphere. She also has a special interest in the law of contract and has lectured and published extensively in this sphere.

She is married to William McMurray, an electrical engineer, and they live in Cape Town.