

12

King's Bench Walk

Nina Ross

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Abuse, International & Travel, Criminal Injuries Compensation, Industrial Disease, Human Rights, Public Authority Liability, Insurance, Fraud, Credit Hire

Nina acts for claimants and defendants across all Chambers' practice areas. She specialises in sexual / physical abuse claims; international and group litigation; and human rights aspects of personal injury law.

Nina has appeared in nearly two hundred contested hearings in the last year. She often undertakes work on a CFA basis.

Abuse

Nina specialises in civil claims arising out of sexual and physical abuse.

She is instructed regularly in abuse claims against schools, children's homes, religious institutions, prisons, local authorities, youth groups (such as the scouts) and commercial employers, as well as in claims against individual defendants.

Examples of her recent cases include:

- Claims against the MoD brought by Iraqi civilians who allege that they were assaulted and unlawfully detained by UK military personnel during the invasion of Iraq in 2003;
- Group litigation brought by Kenyan orphans who were sexually abused by a British Airways pilot during stopovers in Kenya;
- A £5 million claim against a local authority where it was alleged that the authority's failure to remove the claimant from her neglectful parents had altered the structure of her brain, causing her to suffer learning disabilities;
- Claims brought by Thai children who were sexually abused by a retired British teacher in Thailand;
- A claim against a local authority for breach of its non-delegable duty of care in relation to a child abused in a private school; and
- A claim arising out of a paedophile ring on a military base in Cyprus in the 1980s.

Nina advises on all aspects of abuse work including limitation; consent; vicarious liability; non-delegable duties; causation; apportionment; quantum; human rights; jurisdiction; and disclosure / evidential issues.

Nina's abuse practice builds on her experience prior to joining the Bar. She spent nearly two years working on complex, high value personal injury litigation in the international and group claims department at Leigh Day & Co solicitors. There she was involved in claims by Iraqi citizens who alleged that they were physically and/or sexually abused by British soldiers in Iraq. She was also involved in claims by Iraqi interpreters who argued that they were abused by militia as a result of inadequate protection by their British forces employers. Similarly, while working at Liberty, Nina often advised members of the public on potential claims for assault / false imprisonment against employers and the police.

Qualifications & Awards

Bar Vocational Course (Outstanding), BPP College of Professional Studies

Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction), City University

MA (Distinction), Islamic, Hindu and Buddhist Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

BA Hons, English Language and Literature, Balliol College, University of Oxford

Major scholar, Middle Temple Inns of Court

Shakespeare scholar, Balliol College, University of Oxford

Cases

Various claimants v (1) British Airways; (2) Wood: group litigation against British Airways for child sexual abuse carried out by a pilot during stopovers in Kenya.

AW v Lancashire County Council: claim against a local authority for failure to remove a child with learning disabilities from her parents' care.

MRE & KSU v Ministry of Defence: claims by Iraqi civilians for abuse and false imprisonment by UK military personnel during the invasion of Iraq in 2003

Various claimants v Xstrata: a group action by environmental protestors who were shot, beaten, tortured and detained by security guards at a factory in Peru while attending a peaceful protest.

[redacted] v Ministry of Defence: clinical negligence claim arising out of the medical treatment of a soldier suffering from a rare fever while deployed in Afghanistan