



DEEPA MATTOO

ADVOCACY & WOMEN'S RIGHTS

As a skilled feminist lawyer and Executive Director of Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, Deepa Mattoo is a passionate advocate for survivors of violence.

Through her remarkable 24-year career, Deepa has supported women and their families through her work at the Clinic and provided training and educational opportunities to direct service providers, legal and justice system players and others across Canada. Deepa specializes in working with forced marriage survivors, non-status and immigrant women, and refugee women experiencing gender-based violence.

Deepa has spearheaded several innovative projects that include a new intersectional risk assessment tool, a High Need Case Management Program, a Criminalization of Women ProBono Program

for women who have been charged or convicted of criminal offences, and the #AndMeToo Project for addressing sexual harassment for precariously-employed survivors.

Deepa's expertise and law reform advocacy work have brought her before the Supreme Court of Canada and the United Nations to speak on a wide range of human rights and social justice issues, including refugee protection, gender-based violence, and the Hague Convention.

Deepa was one of the first Project Coordinators in the early founding years of Ontario's first South Asian legal service. Along with a group of law students and activists, she recognized and responded to the need for better access to justice for South Asians living in poverty.

She has mentored dozens of young women law students and articling lawyers through her co-directorship of the feminist advocacy program at Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, as well as through her role as an adjunct professor at Osgoode Hall Law School.

As co-chair of Women's Shelters Canada working group 'Promoting Responsive Legal and Justice Systems', Deepa contributed to the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence and supported feminist advocacy across the country.

Through her visionary leadership, commitment to collaboration, and development of innovative service models, Deepa is an inspiring force for change in the legal sphere and beyond.



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