

Rachel Karen Laser

rachel@rachellaser.com

EXPERIENCE

- Summer 2017 **People's House Project** Washington, DC
Executive Director
- Created organizational structures and processes to advance the mission of supporting working class Democratic candidates running for US Congress in Appalachia and the Industrial Midwest
 - Conducted outreach to state Democratic parties and candidates and met with promising candidates in their districts
 - Fundraised from individual donors and PACs
 - Advised candidates on messaging and policy
- 2016 - present **Rachel Laser LLC (rachellaser.com)** Washington, DC
President
- Run workshops on race and racism for teachers, board rooms, nonprofits and houses of worship
 - Guest lecture at Universities on racism and privilege
 - Deliver talks on bridging racial divides in community centers, houses of worship and conferences around the country
 - Publish [articles](#) and [resources](#), and participate in [podcasts](#), on white privilege and racism
 - Facilitate white working-class women focus groups for Public Religion Research Institute
 - Lead and facilitate Wilson High School Diversity Task Force
- 2012-2015 **Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC)** Washington, DC
Deputy Director
- Envisioned and led RAC's interfaith public policy campaigns on gun violence prevention, LGBT equality, climate change, racial justice, economic inequality, immigration reform and the intersection of civil and religious liberties
 - Guided and managed senior team in defining and implementing organization's strategic vision
 - Mentored and apprenticed 6 annual RAC fellows
 - Participated in key congressional, Administration, secular and faith coalitions on social justice issues
 - Founded and edited [Double Booked](#) blog on working family issues
 - Gave speeches and wrote articles on social justice issues
 - Helped draft foundation grant proposals and progress reports

2011 - 2012	Hattaway Communications Senior Vice President for Message Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advised foundations, advocacy groups and Capitol Hill offices on strategy and messaging 	Washington, DC
2005 - 2010	Third Way Culture Program Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Led development and promotion of common ground progressive policy approaches on divisive cultural issues ● Developed “Come Let Us Reason Together” Governing Agenda (on LGBT equality, abortion, immigration & anti-torture policy); built diverse coalition of progressive groups and evangelical Christian leaders to present agenda to 2008 Presidential Transition Team ● Designed and assisted in drafting first congressional abortion bill supported by pro-choice and pro-life members of Congress ● Fundraised for and led Third Way Gay Equality Initiative ● Briefed White House offices, Members of Congress, Chiefs of Staff, campaigns, political consultants, and media on divisive culture issues 	Washington, DC
2002 - 2005	National Women’s Law Center Senior Counsel, Health and Reproductive Rights Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Founded and directed Pharmacy Refusal Project ● Educated policymakers on legislation, judicial nominees’ records 	Washington, DC
2000 - 2002	BASS and HOWES (<i>women’s health public policy firm</i>) Senior Program Associate and Counsel	Washington, DC
1999 - 2000	Planned Parenthood Metropolitan Washington General Counsel	Washington, DC
1998 - 1999	Ropes & Gray Litigation Associate	Washington, DC
1996 - 1997	Law Clerk to US District Court Judge Peter J. Messitte	Greenbelt, MD

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago Law School (J.D. June 1995) University of Chicago Law Review, Staff Intern for the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois	Chicago, IL
Harvard University (B.A. June 1991) <i>Cum laude</i> , History and Literature Founder of Harvard Women’s Center	Cambridge, MA

OTHER

Member of National NARAL Pro-Choice America Board of Trustees (incoming Chair of Governance Committee; former Co-Chair of Development Committee; Chair of upcoming 2017 annual *Roe v. Wade* dinner)

Executive Board Member of Shoulder-to-Shoulder 2012-2015

Georgetown Law School Public Interest Law Mentor 2007-2009

Mother of three young adults, ages 16-20