LAW AND SOCIAL CHANGE
LECTURE

Featuring Baher Azmy
Legal Director of the Center for Constitutional Rights
Adjunct Professor, New York University Law School
Visiting Lecturer, Yale Law School

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024
12:30-2 P.M.
University of Pittsburgh School of Law
Barco Law Building
Teplitz Memorial Moot Courtroom
3900 Forbes Avenue I Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Who Owns the Streets: The Campaign to End the NYPD’s Discriminatory Stop and Frisk Practices

In Who Owns the Streets, Azmy describes the 15-year long campaign of activism, community organizing and committed lawyering that was tethered and accountable to communities most impacted by policing. He offers reflection about how the lawyers in the Floyd litigation responded to the demands of a vibrant police accountability movement to leverage the kinetic force of a class action impact litigation so as to destabilize police narratives around Black criminality and significantly constrain the NYPD’s massive, accelerating system of street encounters and stops.

His lecture will offer an account of how principles of movement lawyering – as distinct from a pure lawyer-driven campaign for rights-recognition in an impact litigation context – informed most aspects of this major class action impact litigation, and did so successfully.

Baher Azmy
has authored numerous legal briefs in the federal appeals courts and the United States Supreme Court on issues related to human rights and constitutional law, testified before Congress, and produced substantial scholarship on issues of access to justice. Baher is a magna cum laude graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and NYU School of Law, where he was a Root-Tilden-Snow Public Interest Scholar.

After law school Azmy clerked for Dolores K. Sloviter, Chief Judge of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia. Azmy was the lawyer for Guantanamo captive Murat Kurnaz. Azmy shared his experiences defending Kurnaz on the Peabody Award-winning episode of This American Life entitled “Habeas Shmabeas.” Baher has been published by and appeared on major media outlets, including The New York Times, The Washington Post, 60 Minutes, PBS Newshour, and MSNBC.

CLE
The program is available for 1.5 substantive CLE credits. There is a $45 fee to process CLE credit. You will be contacted after the program about payment. NOTE: The law school only provides Pennsylvania CLE credit. Attendees are responsible for seeking CLE credit in other states.