

Harvard Law School | Esme Caramello

I'm inspired by Esme Caramello, who is a clinical faculty member at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau where I am a student attorney. Esme works tirelessly to help low-income tenants facing eviction. Many low-income tenants are women, in particular women of color. In fact, Harvard sociologist Matthew Desmond analogizes that incarceration is to black man what eviction is to black women. Esme is in Boston housing court nearly every week helping these women and their families stay in their home and off the streets.

When she's not in court, Esme's in the Bureau teaching and mentoring HLAB student attorneys. She's generous with her time and dedicated to making us astute, ethical, and compassionate lawyers.

I feel so lucky to have gotten to work with Esme on an eviction case last year. She let me take the reins in the case and strategize how to keep an elderly African-American woman in her home. Esme was also there for me when I did have questions and concerns.

She's an excellent clinical instructor and has mentored me, as well as multiple classes of HLS men and women.