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PRESENTS

The Thirty-Second Annual Fall Lecture

sponsored by

Houston Intellectual Property Law Association

**AI COMPANIONS AND THE CRISIS OF
HUMAN CONNECTION**

Gaia Bernstein

Seton Hall University
School of Law

Thursday, November 13, 2025

THE HOUSTON CLUB
910 Louisiana, Suite 4900 • Houston, Texas

One Hour of CLE

Light Reception 5:30 p.m. • Lecture 6:15 p.m., followed by heavy reception

Kindly RSVP to ipil@uh.edu.

For more information, call 713.743.2180 or visit - <https://law.uh.edu/ipil/falllecture.asp>

AI Companions and the Crisis of Human Connection

Loneliness has reached epidemic levels among both adults and children. In response, companies like Meta, Replika, and Character AI are marketing a technological fix: AI companions that serve as friends, advisors, and intimate partners. As people, especially teenagers, increasingly turn to these digital relationships for daily emotional support, we face urgent questions about the future of human intimacy and social development. This talk examines the psychological risks AI companions pose across age groups, with particular attention to their impact on children and adolescents, while exploring current regulatory approaches and practical solutions for addressing these concerns.

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2024 FALL LECTURE

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