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RESPONSES FROM THE MEMBERS OF
THE CLASS OF 1977
TO THE LAST QUESTION ON SURVEY ASKING FOR
"COMMENTS OF ANY SORT ABOUT YOUR LIFE
OR LAW SCHOOL OR WHATEVER"

* * * * *

With the passage of time, I see more clearly how I have benefited from receiving a Michigan law degree. Yet few of the benefits can be traced directly to the classroom or to the faculty's efforts, viewed collectively, as teachers and mentors. I hope the current faculty members, as they pursue vigorously their own research agendas, do not undervalue the importance of their roles as teachers in the broadest sense of that term, and of having strong ties to the profession, because, after all, it is preparing students for that profession which is the main mission of a law school, even a national law school like Michigan.

The traditional law school courses do not sufficiently focus on corporate practice -- there should be more corporate and securities law available. After all, this is what about half of the Michigan grads do (the other half being litigators).

Law school did not prepare me well for a public interest/government job because of the attitudes and focus of faculty, more than the course offerings. A seminar on public policy and law would be terrific.

"Intellectually stimulating" -- yes, but I think the gaming was excessive. It could have been equally stimulating without being deceptive about the key, tough issues. I really disliked the method of teaching.

Michigan Law is the best!
Just last week I was in Boston and decided to see what Harvard Law looked like. Boy, was I disappointed.
How 'bout those basketball Wolverines!!

The courses I found stimulating were a function of the instructors, not the subject matter.

Also, it's interesting how nothing I took ended up being directly relevant or -- to put it differently -- I failed to envision which courses I'd actually end up needing, given the turns my career would take.

So choose a wide variety, and hope for the best?

Law school did not need to be three years -- it should be two years.

Experienced some discrimination from a female who is a raving feminist and can't deal with men, and from some clients who have

difficulty dealing with a male attorney -- particularly in divorce cases.

The law school experience could and should be condensed to two years: one year to learn the law and one year to learn to think like a lawyer. An optional third year could be spent learning about the real world.

My experience at UM Law School allowed me to develop a critical world view and an intellectual depth I would not have otherwise been able to develop.

As much as I love my work, and I do (and always have), I believe it is necessary for all of us to work less. Men and women need time for themselves and their families. There should be sabbaticals for non-academics and part-time work should be easily arranged!

Michigan Law School prepared me well for a career as a trial lawyer. I will always be indebted to the Law School for the excellent legal education that I received. L. Hart Wright was the best teacher that I had at the Law School. I enjoyed his class every day.

Although I live several hundred miles away from Ann Arbor, I try to come back to Ann Arbor every fall for a weekend. My visits always bring back great memories of the three years I spent at the Law School.

I am practicing the type of law I dreamed of before I entered Michigan Law School. I am very fortunate to practice law which is extremely exciting and which has had a tremendous impact on making life better for hundreds of thousands of people.

I am very active in my community, and have a really good social life. I am not married to the law as are numerous lawyers that I come in contact with.

My (ex-)husband's career progress did not keep pace with mine and this placed a great toll on our marriage. He was a "Mr. Mom" who was very supportive of my career, but threatened by it. After 15 years we divorced. We have joint custody of our two children and I pay him substantial child support because of the great disparity in our incomes. Our break-up was a casualty of my professional growth and development.

I expect to return to part or full-time practice as my children become older and more independent.

I have heard some good things about the Law School recently, and it sounds like a much better place to study law now than in 1974. I'm pleased that Prof. Bollinger is Dean and assume that he opened the windows a bit to let in some fresh air. (He started at the Law School when my class started.) I hope he and the rest

of the faculty and staff continue to work to make the Law School inclusive of all students and areas of interest and not just a prep school for Wall Street (as it was in "my day").

Good luck!

I was a partner at Downtown D.C. law firm and left in April 1991 to establish Negotiated Solutions retaining also my prior private practice. Took no salary for my firm after I left until 2/92 (not '91 income).

I thoroughly enjoyed law school. The experience there, together with previous experience and education, adequately prepared me to quickly adapt to a successful private practice.

My practice is very satisfying -- only complaint is the quantity of work. If I were to make a change in my situation it would be to leave firm I am with to open a separate office of my own (same location/same practice).

After fourteen years of defending indigent accused citizens, most of that time dealing with death penalty cases, I have no illusions about the "legal system." It is designed to and operates to oppress the poor, minorities and the conveniently accused, and to support and protect the powerful and their tools, the prosecutors and politicians. I thank Yale Kamisar and Richard Lempert for telling me in law school about the farcical structure of rationality, precedent and "the interests of society" which most lawyers and all judges insist on pretending is the basis for the actions of "the system." I don't know if they knew they were telling me that, but I thank them anyway. I have innocent clients who moronic but ambitious prosecutors and judges insist must be killed in order to fuel their own ambitions. I have brain-damaged, abused, fetal-alcohol affected clients who face the same fate. The ultimate, life and death hypocrisy of judges, politicians and prosecutors is there in golden letters for anyone who wants to look.

However, I have a great time, aside from the stress. We try to advance prosecutor-molesting and judge-bashing to the level of true art. I know, many think that making judges and prosecutors look stupid and act like lunatics is like making rain wet, and sometimes it is. But the tricky part is winning the game when the referees are on the other side, and don't care if you know it.

I did not particularly enjoy the practice of law. I found the majority of opposing counsel to be overly aggressive, without a well-defined ethical system, sneaky and even obnoxious (maybe not the majority -- that's just my memory now, and stories I hear don't dispel that!). (My specialty was domestic relations litigation.)

I do credit my law school experience and subsequent practice with enabling me to meet some people who are now very dear friends. It is also interesting that of my law school best friends, only one is now practicing law. I do not anticipate a return to the practice of law although I would be interested in a position that would allow me to use my degree in some way. I continue to be an at-home mom in part due to my son's disability which requires greater parental attention and involvement. My return to gainful employment will be part-time only.

One of the best pieces of advice about career planning I've received came from a classmate (years after graduation): to be open to the unexpected even while thinking long term. The very best things to come my way have been the least expected.

When I was in law school, I was quite young (23-25), had never owned any real property, business, nor had I had any children. Accordingly, many of the concepts about which we debated in law school -- such as abortion, the death penalty, search and seizure, property rights -- were purely intellectual in nature. Now that I have children and a family, own property, operate my own small partnership, I recognize that many issues which used to seem black and white are now much closer, and it is easier to understand the opposing view.

I think law school would be a much more stimulating and rewarding experience if you could attend it later in life, as I feel that most kids entering law school shortly after college are too young and inexperienced to appreciate much of the debate that takes place.

Without a doubt the most important virtue of law school is that it teaches you to think; to question, to evaluate -- and in that regard, I think Michigan was a fantastic school.

Something needs to be done about the rising cost of attending law school. I interview many recent and not-so-recent law graduates for government attorney jobs and am distressed at the heavy financial burden that law school loans impose on those graduates. If there must be loans, the government should allow the deduction of interest on student loans and disallow the deduction of interest for home mortgages. The former is a much more worthy social goal than the latter, at least in my view.

Generally speaking, practicing law has been a satisfying career. I do believe that the south has a viable "good old boys" network that generally believes women belong in the home. Women lawyers are better accepted and respected in the north. I have practiced law in both areas and much prefer the north.

Law school needs to provide more information about career choices -- salary, working conditions, chances for advancement, nature of the work in various legal jobs.

Also more guidance on career choices for the older law student. The placement office should be much more aggressive in getting corporate law jobs listed for new graduates and experienced lawyers. As a corporate lawyer I got on the job listing mailing list several times since graduation. It was totally useless as far as jobs in corporations were concerned.

My 4 years as a prosecutor for the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Central District of California beat the hell out of anything private practice affords!

You should ask questions about discrimination based on sexual preference. This is a serious issue being addressed aggressively by a number of California firms.

I believe the Law School would benefit from bringing in successful practitioners to teach for one or so semesters to balance the academic with the practical side of legal training.

I think that the most worthwhile part of law school was the intellectual challenge offered by some of the professors, regardless of the substantive area. At the same time, I have much less sympathy, 15 years later, with professors who have never practiced/have an antipathy towards the practice of law, and who see law as an intellectual matter only.

Life as a lawyer has not been all it was cracked up to be, but what is? It pays the rent, and almost covers the childcare.

It is sad, nevertheless, that so many smart people have become establishment lawyers and contribute so little to society.

While my general political orientation is left of center, I am very disturbed at the inroads made by the Critical Legal Studies and Political Correctness movements in reorienting law school curricula.

Inherent race, sex, and class biases in the law represent a legitimate field of inquiry, but a student who focuses three years of study on such subjects will come out of law school as a leftist historian, not a lawyer. Law school must teach students to apply a body of rules to a set of facts, and to articulate an argument persuasively. For this purpose, the Code of Hammurabi will do nearly as well as the Michigan Consolidated Laws, and the injustices inherent in either body of law are largely irrelevant to learning how to think like a lawyer.

In retrospect, I should have taken off more summers instead of going straight through, or I should have waited a year or two before starting. I would have stayed fresher.

By early 1991 I had become fed up with the stress associated with public practice. I opted for the much less stressful life in the private sector in a much smaller city. The money will possibly

be less in the long run but I don't care at all. For me, living with myself and with my family mattered more than all else. That was my best decision in 38 years!

I was a partner at a large (over 300 attorney) law firm until 1986, when I left the practice of law to go into business. Although I have made less money in the past five years than I would have as an attorney, I am much happier not practicing law.

I felt that law school was only good at preparing people to be law professors. I strongly feel that law school did a very poor job at preparing me to be a business attorney.

Ten years ago, after dealing with the most unethical group of people I can imagine, lawyers, for five years, I left the practice of law, and have not given a moment's thought to it since. Over the last ten years, I have lived an enriched, happy, and intellectually satisfying life. All of the lawyers that I speak to express their deepest wishes that they could abandon the legal system and lead an honest life, but for bogus financial reasons, they believe they cannot.

Dear reader, I implore you to leave your job, which in some way or another is supporting a system that makes miserable all those who partake in it, and find a more satisfying existence. Mr. Bollinger, my only advice about the Law School itself is to please shut it down -- you are making your living by training a plague of locusts to parasitize society.

Your questions do not adequately capture my career, I have always thought about teaching as a second career once my children were done with college. However, I became a professor in a business school just before the birth of my first child in order to have flexible hours, despite the substantial decrease in salary. My wife makes very good money at her career in business.

Although I am not practicing law, I have been discriminated against in hiring because of my race and gender.

Placement office did not do a very good job making students aware of openings in government agencies.

I wish I'd taken a longer view of the practice of law. I've spent most of my time with large (for here) firms where the emphasis was to make as much money as possible. As a result, the work has involved long hours, hard work and a lot of stress. As a result of this, I dislike the practice and plan to stop as soon as possible. I wish I'd approached the practice of law from the point of making it as pleasant and rewarding (from a non-monetary view) as possible, something that enhanced the last 15 years of my life instead of detracting from it. Ironically, that approach would probably have led to greater overall income because I probably would have practiced for many more years than I will. Somewhere in law school it should be taught that work is only a

part of life, and should enhance, not limit, the rest of it. It should also be taught that we will be spending most of our adult lives working, so it should be a source of enjoyment, not anguish.

Society has too many lawyers and too few machinists, inventors, mechanics, etc.

We've got a lot of problems that threaten to destroy us -- AIDS, drugs, riots, disparities between rich and poor, etc. Let's each of us do just one thing to make things better.

If you've got kids, raise 'em right. If you've got a spouse, pay attention to him/her. Because one day you'll be 70 and all the "great stuff" you're doing now won't mean a thing.

When I filled this out ten years ago, I was pretty cranky, hence the vitriolic comments. What I would like to see in this survey is the question that asks "what do you do in your real spare time?" This questionnaire seems to presuppose that we are steeped in the law with no outside interests other than PTA and government. I, for example, play a lot of golf and spend a lot of time hanging out at the driving range. My wife tolerates this because if I were not doing this, I would be working myself into another heart attack.

While I recognize that the only way a lawyer can afford the new Benz, the kids' braces, colleges, dance lessons, soccer transport, etc., not to mention the country club dues, is to work his- or herself 80 hours a week and then pretend to enjoy waking up at age sixty wondering where his/her life went, I suspect we would all be slightly better off emotionally and physically if we would, as they say, GET A LIFE!! Workaholics remind me of the medical researcher searching for the cure for leprosy. After twenty years of efforts, he became afflicted with the disease. His response upon looking in the mirror? "On me, it looks good!"

When you do this questionnaire next time, please throw in some lifestyle-type questions. See what the correlation, if only between Type A behavior and early death is. (Or, if not early death, then excessive hospital bills.) As I said to my cardiologist a year ago, "I didn't know I was a type-A until my heart attack."

All of this said, what I have learned after leaving law school is this..."If you are experiencing pain or tightness in your chest, near and below your sternum, see your neighborhood emergency room." And "Never, ever, play golf for money with a person who has a better tan than you do, or who carries a one iron and claims to have a ten handicap." And to those of you with daughters... If you want her to marry a man who drinks, gambles, swears, and is never home, let her start hanging around a golf course.

I think the profession -- like our culture -- is based on predominantly male-valued traits. Even though I have been highly successful on an objective-scale, I subjectively feel little of this success in a positive way. Instead, I feel I have abandoned my true feminine self to succeed in a male environment. It has cost me one marriage (not a large loss), and relationships. I now get blamed by my ex-husband for our children's problems, and told by potential male partners that my success as a lawyer makes them project that I am different in my emotional needs from other women. That, combined with sporadic but continued devaluation of my talents and opinions due to my gender, and a growing sense that our legal system is out of hand, and cannot be reformed, will -- I HOPE -- permit me to get off the fast track and change my life.

I practice budget and appropriations law (federal level). Nothing in law school could prepare me for this! The one really related course, administrative law, I failed to take while in school and have had to learn on the job. While I do research, it is not of the traditional "library" variety. Rather, it involves Comptroller General opinions (pretty traditional) to evolving Congressional practices. Much of my "research" consists of discussions with technical experts and agency bureaucrats.

My one nagging concern at this time is balancing work and home. I would like a more flexible schedule so that I could spend more time with my children during the week, especially as they begin elementary school. It is not clear that such a work schedule will be acceptable.

On the question of discrimination, the only instances of ethnic and gender discrimination I have experienced occurred while I was working for a small private firm about 10 years ago. I have had almost no such experiences since then.

In the 15 years I have been in practice the law profession/business has undergone some drastic changes. The most notable effect is that private firms have now stopped growing and have become extremely competitive. The impact on the individual lawyer is that there is much less job security than there used to be in the 60's and 70's (and most of the 80's).

Many people of my generation went through school (including law school) and chose our profession because we really did not want to be salesmen. The private practice of law is now very much focussed on "marketing" and the economic structure of firms is now such that mere technical proficiency and doing work conscientiously and well is no longer sufficient to insure a satisfactory career.

A substantial majority of the lawyers I know are either unhappy with their careers or less satisfied than they used to be. I am in the latter group. Our profession reflects the economic and moral malaise of the nation.

I went through a divorce in 1991. This greatly affects my perspective on every aspect of my life, including work. Just how it affects things, I'm not sure.

I might also point out that I have found it extremely difficult, through two failed marriages, to balance my love of work with love to my spouse. The kids have always come first, however.

The education I received at the University of Michigan Law School was clearly better than that received by most other lawyers. In most federal courts and some State appellate courts, this has been very valuable. However, in day-to-day practice working with and against lawyers and judges who do not share this education, it is of little help. In that competition, the race goes to the lawyers best at "scoping out" the judges and opposing lawyers -- probably the same ones I laughed at as law students for being more concerned about the professor's grading system and grading philosophy than with "learning." I have, over the years, developed a real appreciation and respect for those "grade-grubbers" and the pre-law school socialization process which produced them.

I used to worry a lot about all of the incompetent, dishonest and unethical lawyers and judges. Now, I just expect lawyers and judges to be incompetent, dishonest and unethical. As a result, I am usually fairly well prepared. As a bonus, every once in a while, someone proves to be competent, honest and ethical, and I am pleasantly surprised.

It would be most beneficial if UM could take a more active role in encouraging a legal services/public interest career, by increasing relevant course offerings, providing role models, allowing for loan forgiveness or more favorable repayment plans, etc.

Law school was hell. I considered it a hoop to be jumped through to get to where I was going. I have found it to be of little use to practicing law, other than to give me permission to take the admissions test.

I am currently working on a major class action case where the lead lawyer on the other side went to Harvard. I hope to beat his pants off -- Go Blue!

I found the Law School to be a demeaning, arrogant and uncaring place. Individual faculty and staff members could be understanding of the pressures of competition at the school, and the financial problems that accompanied attending while trying to raise a family. However, the general atmosphere was oppressive due to the prevailing attitude that study, assignments, and other class requirements should always be given top priority. It's no surprise to me that lawyers are expected to subjugate all outside

interests to the law, it's drummed into them for 3 years in law school.

I would encourage the School to provide classes or seminars on alternative legal careers that allow attorneys an opportunity to balance their professional and private lives. Students should know that there are alternatives to putting 70-100 hours a week into law school and into their legal careers. As Oscar Wilde said, "Life's too short to be taken seriously."

As a lawyer who primarily practices civil litigation the only value to society of my work is as a dispute resolver. I have a great deal of faith in our advisory system but that faith is being eroded bit by bit every year. I do not want to sound like the whiners in the medical profession, but the concern over malpractice claims, the potential for sharp practices by our adversaries, the general distrust of lawyers and our overburdened judiciary (of limited ability) have combined to make it extremely difficult to perform a service. The result in spiraling litigation costs has from a practical standpoint put the courts out of reach of all but the well-to-do and contributes to a sense of powerlessness in the general population. I think this is a contributing factor to the general sense of apathy in this country. Certainly, it is one of the greatest challenges facing the legal profession and the solutions being attempted do not appear to be of much use. What would be of use in my opinion is growth-funding for the judiciary of an emphasis on competence rather than political connections. Unfortunately, the judiciary is not a very high priority item and lawyer bashing is a cheaper and more expedient option. Given a chance to do it all over again, I would not choose law as a career.

You can chalk up most of my current dissatisfaction to the fact that, due to the current downturn in the real estate market, I do not have enough work to do. Because I was always busy in the past, I never took the time to develop my own clients. Now the firm suddenly wants everyone to bring in business. The current business climate creates a kind of stress which is not addressed in your questionnaire.

Coming from an inner city and being the first in my family to graduate from undergraduate school, I was ill-equipped for the political reality of law school. Not that I expected preferential treatment, but a level playing field. What I found was that students who established close relationships with professors, i.e., majority students, benefitted grade-wise. It is my hope that the playing field has been leveled to some extent in recent years than when I attended fifteen years ago, which is very important to giving minorities a sense of belonging, as opposed to a feeling of being the unwelcome guest who has crashed the party.

1) You might consider a question about practicing law in different areas of the country. For example, practicing law in Atlanta is much the same as Detroit or Lansing. However, for a

Michigan native, practicing law in South rural Georgia is much different than rural Michigan. Being a national law school, your students might be interested in geographical differences between different areas of the country.

2) Michigan grads are held in much higher esteem in Georgia than in Michigan -- would you want to evaluate this?

3) You might want to ask about the outlook for lawyers in their community, i.e., in Michigan, every lawyer I ever met always talked about how bad business was; in contrast, the lawyers in South Georgia were positive about the future and encouraged me to relocate. Obviously, students might be interested in relocating where the business climate is good for lawyers.

I am currently suspended. The suspension has nothing to do with how I practiced law, but since I was in private practice it has been totally devastating.

I was not in town when this questionnaire came. But I hope I am returning it in time because I am extremely interested in seeing the overall results.

As five more years pass I feel more and more remotely connected to the Law School and practice of law. I value my education for its intellectual training, the entre to a large firm and the subsequent career opportunities that afforded me. However, I am quite distressed with the direction the profession has taken over the past 15 years. I don't know many attorneys that are very happy or feel personally satisfied practicing law. I would not in any way influence my children to enter the profession -- I hope they will find work lines that are more professionally and personally satisfying. My husband is still practicing law, very active in a large firm and in the community -- though still "sticking with it," he has many of the same feelings.

After practicing law for four years, I was seriously injured in an automobile accident in which my husband was killed. After a seven-month recuperation period, I returned briefly to my previous position practicing law. Shortly thereafter, however, I resigned from my position, sold my house (in Georgia where we were living), and returned to school. I earned a Masters degree in elementary education and then taught elementary school for four years. Finally, I moved back to Michigan (my home state), took the Michigan Bar (after being away from the practice of law for seven years) and returned to the practice of law as in house counsel for a university.

Lawyers' income expectations are too high. Partners want associates to kill ourselves so they can become wealthy -- like doctors or businessmen -- but law is just a "body shop." There are only so many hours a human can work. It just isn't worth it but I can't find a way out -- kids are growing up, one is on the brink of college -- the money is really needed. I work 50 hours

a week for \$50,000/year. I'm behind because I took 4 years off with my young children -- 4 years I wouldn't trade for any others even though during that time my father died slowly of cancer and my husband lost his job. My husband started his own business 6 years ago and it pays him a little but it is a struggle. The glittering 80's -- the Yuppie Era -- was totally irrelevant to us. I sit here watching Barbara Walters interview 8 young people in their 20's about where the American Dream has gone and I think how much more I have in common with them than my own generation.

My kids are my passion, my joy. My greatest regret -- a bitter daily burden -- is that I do not have a reasonable amount of time for them. If I can find a way to change it, I will. Why do such intelligent people (lawyers) choose to organize their lives like this. One week off a year -- for the rest of my life? NO WAY! Clients' demands are unreasonable. 90% of the pressure for quick turnaround is one-upsmanship, egotism, unnecessary. Clients brag about putting their lawyers through their paces all hours of the day and night. It is so stupid! Lawyers as a group should be smart enough to make their whole lifestyle attractive, not just the income. I love my work but there is too damn much of it. This is disjointed and rambling because I've had 3 1/2 hours of sleep; started work at 7:00 a.m., worked through lunch, caught a plane, worked on the plane, made it to Fed Ex with a document when the plane landed with 2 minutes to spare, checked into a "resort," attended a business/bar "social function" [due to volunteer bar work for good of the profession/marketing], finished this survey and now have urgent work to do -- but I'll sleep instead. Enough is enough! Typical? Yes. If women could make the rules of the game, it would not be like this.

I have spent considerable time considering your request for comments on law school and life in general. I'd like to pass on several thoughts for you about law school. As you consider these comments, please keep in mind that besides working full time, I also have served as an adjunct professor at a law school. As such, I remain as part of the academic community.

1. Abolish the Law Review. Perhaps this sounds either radical or stupid. However, in my experience, the current law review system (at Michigan and elsewhere) provides the student and the profession with little benefit, certainly nothing worth the effort. I don't care about charges (usually true) of elitism and snobbery. Rather, the concept of students trying to provide new directions and approaches to difficult or new legal issues reminds me of having medical students tell experienced surgeons how to operate. Likewise, students should have no role in deciding whether to publish (or edit) the work of noted academicians. As a result, I don't believe, trust or read law reviews.

The system leads to two major problems. First, there is no body of legal scholarship that has any significant impact on the real life practice of law or the judicial system. Unlike medical or

science, the review of academic work is not a part of the real life practice. Secondly, the law review experience is a detriment to many of its members. These students get a mistaken impression of their importance and, more importantly, the role of a lawyer. Many of the lawyers reporting to me have served on law reviews. I have to spend a significant amount of time breaking them of law review habits. These include an inability to judge what is important, a belief that they should always suggest changes in the law, a pedantic style of analysis and the inability to write in a simple, understandable style.

Eliminating law review would let the more experienced, respected academicians provide the legal research and free the students to learn how to be a lawyer rather than pretend that they have some great insight that others, older and wiser could not decipher. Perhaps then, I might actually read a law review article.

2. Law students need to be exposed to more areas of the law. A problem that I perceive in my education and in that of new graduates is a lack of familiarity with all areas of the law. It is not possible for students to take courses in all areas. However, the law school could create a (mandatory?) series of lectures on all areas. These could be 1-2 hours in length. This would provide students with greater breadth, exposure to all professors and a greater ability to identify all the issues in a particular fact situation.

3. Greater attention should be paid to non-private firm practice. The Law School is dedicated to preparing students for the private practice. More attention should be paid to other forms of practice including corporate, government, legal services, etc. The clinical programs, while important, do not help prepare students for a corporate practice, government service, etc. The Law School needs to develop programs to prepare students for these lines of practice. In addition, recruiting needs to change to encourage these other careers. Furthermore, the Law School needs to prepare students for career changes. Odds are that a student will have multiple employers over the course of one's career.

4. Law students and lawyers need some humility. Most law students and lawyers cannot relate to non-lawyers. (This is a polite way to say that they are egotistical jerks.) Whether it's outside counsel, government attorneys or in-house counsel, most lawyers act in a manner that offends most non-lawyers, whether leaders or hourly workers. Somehow, someone needs to teach lawyers to be human.

5. Professors need to spend more time with students. I work full-time and serve as an adjunct professor. In the latter role, I teach a 1/2 load of a full-time professor. Therefore, I have some idea of the time demands on law school professors. The teaching load clearly allows substantial time for students. Unfortunately, one had to make a special effort to seek faculty

contact (something I didn't do). While writing and research are important, the faculty must force student contact, not wait for it to happen while they write and research.

6. Provide more alumni continuity. I had hoped that my law school classmates would serve as a national network and that we would maintain our contacts. Unfortunately, that has not taken place. Whose fault? All of ours. Perhaps the Law School could help maintain that network. I would love to compare notes and experiences with my classmates, particularly those that chose different careers.

The work I do is very valuable. The courts, however, do not provide a level playing field toward the defense of claims in the employment and insurance areas. This is frustrating personally and impedes development of the law in these areas and the betterment of society.

There was one government agency during a job seeking period in which I felt my gender and/or race restricted my opportunity to be hired.

When applying for law teaching jobs, I was discriminated against because of my gender. Other lawyers -- not current wo-workers -- discriminated against me because of sexual preference.