



MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONS

INTRO :

Member Name : Karin Stein

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Photo :

QUESTIONS :

1- How did you get into criminal law?

I got into criminal law through a prolonged but fairly linear route: it started with an interest in deviance and abnormal psychology, which lead to criminology, which lead to Alan Young's Criminal Law class, which lead to law school where the plan was to do criminal law policy, but a chat with a criminal law practitioner who asked "how can you write policy if you don't know how anything works in

real life?” lead to a position with another criminal law practitioner and then to actually practicing criminal law.

2- What type of cases do you enjoy defending the most and why?

There aren't really any types cases I like more than others. Usually it is just the players in any given case that make it or break it.

3- How did the practice of criminal law change you?

In some ways it has made me harder, as in more resilient, but it has also helped me to become more aware of other people's experiences, of not jumping to conclusions, and have a more open mind.

4- If there is one thing only you would like to see change in criminal law, what would it be?

Slavish adherence to archaic notions of punishment.

5- What advice would you give to your younger self when you first started practising criminal law?

Yes, you need to work hard and put in the hours but don't forget to set boundaries.

6- How do you deal with bad work days?

Venting my spleen to my supportive office mates and business partner, a brisk walk, a lot of talking to myself, and some intense vacuuming.

7- What do you think of Zoom court?

I love it for everything except for most trials and bail hearings since there is a woeful lack of zoom or video functions in the jail.

8- Any embarrassing court story you're willing to share?

Too many to share.

9- Who is your role model/inspiration in criminal law?

An amalgam of different lawyers I have worked for or with over the years.

10- What's your favourite song?

Lovers in a Dangerous Time (Barenaked Ladies' version).

11- How do you maintain work life balance and how do you deal with the stress of the job?

See above for dealing with a bad day and add reading a good book, enjoying a cup of tea and getting outside for some fresh air and exercise.

12- What is your biggest legal inspiration?

Every time I hear or read about a wrongful conviction, I am inspired to keep doing this.

13- What do you do outside of the law?

Just about anything outside, I enjoy reading and being part of book clubs, and getting together with my family.