Keeping Your Sanity And Succeeding:
Two Fourth Years on First Year

By Gordon A. Govens, '90

I know that most of you have probably already heard your fill of advice on how to tackle your first year of law school. Allow me, however, to offer my advice. First of all, you should walk away from anyone who, regardless of his or her intentions, attempts to offer advice on how to survive first year. You are not in law school to survive. You came here to succeed. How well you succeed here determines how successful you will be at getting a job. More importantly, it may determine how well you succeed "out there." Here, therefore, are some thoughts for those who wish to succeed, and not merely survive, law school.

There are three secrets to succeeding in law school, determination, discipline and hard work. We'll call them "DDH" for short. If you have these already, or you can quickly develop them, you'll do fine. There is a reason employers look for good grades when sizing up prospective lawyers. Whether you agree with them or not, employers know that good grades are a result of DDH. Now that you know the secrets, here are some more well known pointers.

Mr. Linguanti will address the line is all you need. Reading cases gives you the title. Here, instead of law school, determination, discipline, and hard work. We'll call them "class"). In deciding who you want as part of your group, don't look for the smartest persons. Being smart has little to do with law school. Just defining it in the context of law school would be difficult. Look for those who work hard, do the readings, and are prepared. The study group is for sharing thoughts and insights, therefore, don't select those who like to pontificate. Don't worry, you'll know who they are soon enough.

Don't panic. More importantly, don't let anyone else cause you to panic. There are plenty of these varmints in law school. One kind is the person who asks one question per minute. He doesn't know anymore than you do. That's why he's asking so many questions. Either that or he enjoys being an irritation. There is nothing wrong with asking questions. Simply have the courtesy to ask a question that is well thought out and is of benefit to everyone. Asking a question that you heard on "LA LAW" is not helpful. Those who answer questions are doing the readings. Be one of them.

Finally, remember that you already have what it takes to succeed in law school. The admissions committee has already made that decision, and they're good at it. Don't spend two thirds of your first year questioning their decision. Do the best that you can, and don't invite future disappointment by not giving yourself a chance to succeed.

by Thomas V. Linguanti, '90

While I am sure my cohort in editing has given some sound advice in the left-hand column relating to keeping your sanity and succeeding as a first year law student, I believe it necessary to share with you that which I am likewise sure he neglected to relate, i.e. "the real deal". Doing this wacky law school thing for longer than most humans should ever be subjected, I think you will find my advise rather sound.

1. The Coffee Addiction. It has become quite clear to me that the only true way to guarantee success is to develop a caffeine addiction unequalled by the Hills brothers themselves. Generally, four to five potfuls a day should be sufficient. This level of ulcer-causing agents not only should enable you to survive through those "infrequent" times when you simply cannot stand one more "infrequent" times when you simply cannot stand one more foreseeable question, but also should allow you to brag to your friends that you are able to exist with three hours of rest. In law school, strange things form the bases for respect among your peers.

2. Second, Third and Fourth Years Don't Know Anything. Given that this title has just encouraged you to ignore everything that Gordon or I have to say (sound advise per se), you should know that every later-yeared law student has the key outline for every course, the best notes for every teacher and the greatest study tips this side of Mr Emanuel. You should also know that if this were true, then it would take more than a B+ to land a student in the top 10% of the class. The only way for you to really do your best is to weed through what is mostly egotistical advice (as evidenced by my continuing this article) and to find the combination of tactics with which you feel most comfortable. Short-cuts will teach you nothing. Do the work yourself. Remember, any outline any student has ever prepared contains primarily stolen information.

3. Teacher Tips. Gambling as I am with my impending graduation, here are some tips about my first-year courses. By its nature, Property lends itself to rather "free-wheeling" discussions. However, none of these will be on the final exam. This should alleviate some of the note-taking panic that befell me often in that class. As intellectually stimulating as these discussions can be, you best do the readings. The knowledge that can be gained from Torts is, with hindsight, one of the most important I received. It is sort of like algebra - while you may not have any idea why the heck you are learning this stuff at the time, the information you acquire will be used continually throughout your career, as well as in the legal profession. So pay attention. As ominous as some Contracts professors may be, it is because of this course that I remained at Fordham.

4. Relax. No matter how horrible things seem, everything will get done. And you will do just fine. If you work hard and study hard and play hard, you will come out even in the end. A mediocre grade in Legal Writing will not (contrary to popular belief) take food from the mouths of children starving in the South Bronx. If you do indeed ignore everything else I have said, please remember that your sanity depends upon this reality.

Have fun kids.
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From The Editor

Welcome to all of you who have returned from your summer work release to serve the remainder of your sentence, and to those of you who are beginning your three or four years sentence. To all faculty and students, I hope that the summer enjoyable and that this school year will be a productive one.

Here at the Advocate, we are well underway in assuring that this will be a productive year for Fordham Law School's newspaper. In addition to the general articles of interest, we have lined up an expressive group of practicing attorneys and law school professors to submit articles for publication in the Advocate. Unfortunately, the resources available to students who wish to find out about the practice of a particular area of law are scattered in and outside of the law school. We hope to gather those resources, and tap into the vast knowledge and experiences they contain.

This line up, however, does not abridge you, the student, of your responsibilities to the Advocate and your fellow students. Other students would like to know what you think. Be it about a published article, or your point of view on an issue of interest to the school. Remember, never again will many of you have the vehicle in which to express your views to such an interested readership as students in the Advocate welcomes articles from all students and faculty.

Again, welcome and congratulations to all who have made it to that next step towards freedom, first years included.

Gordon Govens
Editor-in-Chief

Letters To The Editor

This letter is in response to the editorial entitled "The Perpetration of Stereotypes: When Some Speak For All" which appeared in the April 1989, Volume 21, No. 4 edition of The Advocate.

It is an indisputable fact that every individual has a right to express his or her opinion. Therefore, it is not with Mr. Govens' opinion that BLSA takes exception, but with the dangerously blind manner in which he chose to express it.

Mr. Govens' response attempts to divert attention from the issue, which is, and always has been, that the subject letters, which were purportedly written by "Chief Unga Bunga" and Al Sharpton, are racially offensive.

As Mr. Govens astutely pointed out, "(n)o other country in the world can boast having as many ways to label its people than the good old U.S.A." However, Mr Govens failed to point out, the "good old U.S.A." is second only to South Africa in terms of its modern history of legally-sanctioned racial discrimination and oppression. Segregation within the public school system only became illegal approximately thirty years ago. In spite of this, as recently as June of 1989, the City of Yonkers, New York had to be ordered to desegregate its schools. This graphically illustrates that racial equality does not exist in this country.

Black people in this country have yet to shed the "badges and incidences of slavery." As long as you are considered Black and live in the "good old U.S.A.," you are judged by the perceptions of what a Black person is. These perceptions have a profound effect on the daily lives of every Black person in this country whether or not he or she is aware of it. These perceptions give rise to racial attacks that vary in nature and scope from the defacing of BLSA posters here at Fordham, to the killing of a Black man in Howard Beach, New York. Therefore, stereotypes which perpetuate the perception that Blacks are ignorant people offend all Blacks, lack of a feeling of personal offense not withstanding.

We urge Mr. Govens to "look closely at the content and message" of our previous letter. For if he had done this, he would realize that we were not asserting that all Blacks "think and feel alike," but rather that we are all ultimately judged by the societal perceptions of Black people. We therefore take exception to being characterized as hypocritical, and reaffirm our previous statement that the letters were "overly racist and insulting to Blacks both inside and outside Fordham Law School."

THE BLACK LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Response

For those of you who are first years and therefore do not know what issue the BLSA letter addresses, and for those who have forgotten, let me quickly summarize the issue involved.

Last year, the former staff of The Advocate created a fictitious character named Mr X, Mr X answered letters from equally fictitious people seeking his advice. On occasion, there would be a letter from Ronald Reagan or Leona Helmsley who, of course, didn't actually write these letters. That was supposed to be part of the fun.

In one edition there was a letter from Rev. Al Sharpton, seeking advice from Mr. X, which was intentionally written in incorrect grammar, to represent the way in which Mr. Sharpton speaks. There was also a letter from a "Chief Unga Bunga" who asked Mr. X's advice on cannibalism. BLSA, as well as other students and professors, both black and white, found the letter offensive. They argued, in a letter to the editor, that both letters perpetuated negative stereotypes about African-Americans. They stated in their letter that the articles were offensive to all Black people.

In turn, I wrote the article to which they refer in the above letter. The essence of my argument was that BLSA was guilty of what they accused The Advocate. By stating that the Mr. X column was offensive to all blacks, I argued that they were furthering the stereotype that all Blacks feel and think alike. That article has prompted their above response, and I therefore now answer their argument.

BLSA suggests that the terms "af­fect" and "offend" are interchangeable, and that the conditions necessary to their result are the same. Their line of reason is erroneous, or at least misguided. I reiterate that the feeling of being offended is personal to each individual. It is a personal decision as to what one finds "offensive." To the contrary, a person has no choice as to what "affects" him/her. BLSA, by stating that the letters were offensive "to all black people," in essence made that decision for all African-Americans. That is not a responsibility that BLSA, or anyone else, maintains.

Those who joined in signing the original protest letter, both black and white, had every right to be offended, and to voice their concern. The Advocate welcomes comments from all students and faculty concerning the content of any article published.

Although I was not in my capacity as Editor-in-Chief when the articles were written, I now thank BLSA for their responsible reply.

The Advocate
FORDHAM UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

The Advocate is the official newspaper of Fordham Law School, published by the students of the school. The purpose of the Advocate is to report the news concerning the Fordham Law School community and developments in the legal profession, and to provide students with a medium for communication and expression of opinion. The Advocate does not necessarily concur with opinions expressed herein, and is not responsible for the opinion of individual authors or for factual errors in contributions received.

Gordon Govens
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Thomas V. Liguanti
MANAGING EDITOR

PUBLICATION GUIDELINES
1. All copy must be TYPED and DOUBLE-SPACED
2. Deadlines will be approximately the FIFTEENTH of each month. Specifics will be posted.
3. Submission does not guarantee immediate publication. The editors reserve the right to reject or edit copy at their discretion.

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Early Interview Program Fiasco

By: Thomas Linguanti, Fordham '90

"No one has the corner on the truth." John Stuart Mill, On Liberty

Well it is certainly good to see that Fordham has its first embarrassment so early in the semester. I am referring to the Early Interview Program's Free Sign-Up fiasco. As we have now thrown ourselves once again in self-pity and competitiveness, I no longer wonder why the world hates lawyers.

The Free Sign-Up Program was established by the Career Planning Center to address the problems of last minute openings in the highly successful on-campus interviewing program. In previous years, when slots with interviewers became available (because of cancellations or conflicts, for example), CPC had lists of alternate students who would automatically fill those slots. Unfortunately, these "instant" interviews led to further cancellations, missed appointments and embarrassed staff members.

This year, CPC hoped (naively) to improve the process by giving students the opportunity to "freely" sign up at 5:30 p.m. each day for the following day's openings. The theory was to open the system to students who may not have been part of any alternate list. Also, it was to ensure that no one would receive a slot about which they were not aware.

This summer of "Who-mania" though has not gone by unnoticed. On the first day of free sign-up, people began forming lines in the school. On the second day, people arrived at 11 a.m. or so. On the third day, people had established their base camps by 8 a.m. Attendance lists were prepared. Tents were pitched. Sleeping bags were unrolled. I guess the only thing missing was the "Tommy 1969-1989" banners.

As any young law student could imagine, this run on the market caused quite a stir. Many evening students were surprised to learn from their classmates that if one cared enough, then one would have arranged to stand in line for 8 hours. It is interesting how we tend to forget that many students attend school after 5 p.m. because they have to work for a living, supporting families, careers and ulcers. Not surprisingly, violent discussions resulted; and, of course, everyone went whining to CPC.

Somewhere the understanding people at CPC believed that the students would act considerately toward each other. While they anticipated a pre-5:30 p.m. line-up, they certainly could not have imagined such a mess. With remarkable good humor, CPC told the screaming students that, as far as CPC was concerned, it was up to the students to work it out themselves. If the students wished to form a line when the sun rose, then that was their prerogative, regardless of CPC's disappointment in the future officers of the court. However, once students left their camp site it was lost forever. CPC's one accommodation to keep the children from holding their collective breath and turning blue was in allowing each student to designate a proxy to "save the spot" (an entertaining throwback to second grade lunch lines - "no cuts!"). CPC would not however play hall monitor. Yes, it was true; the students would have to conduct themselves as adults.

I would like to note by the way that regardless of how early students arrived, everybody was given at least one free interview. This is in case you were wondering whether the early arrivals had a rational basis for their irrational acts. By the end of the Early Interview Period, the system was even working somewhat smoothly. Although, CPC did adjust the procedure once they realized that we could not be trusted (my words, not theirs), instituting a hybrid alternate/freesign-up procedure for the remaining interview weeks.

What is so disturbing is not that CPC made some sort of grave miscalculation or that the procedure itself was so fatally flawed, but that we could not handle a simple responsibility. That this was even an issue is degrading. At some point soon we will be attorneys, well-educated, well-trained and well-compensated. It is our role not only to perform a service, but also to represent a profession as best we can. If this is our "best", I am quite wary of our worst.

These episodes say a tremendous amount about Fordham's lawyers-in-waiting. While we may be students of the American system of law, we have not learned a thing about consideration, fairness or respect. Contrary to what some may believe, and to how others may behave, these concepts are not mutually exclusive. We all realize how pressurized this whole job search madness is, but that does not give us the right to abandon our adulthood, assuming it existed at all. Somehow I thought that we were better than all this - - dopey me.
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**Random Thoughts**

By Andrew Pine

**WHAT THE HECK IS A CHEESE CHUBB?...AND OTHER KEY QUESTIONS YOU WANT TO ASK THE FOOD SERVICE.**

Without the benefit of the heavy empiricle studies that Marriott obvi­
ously has undertaken in developing the menu this year, I want to know why on earth would they focus the entire menu on five dollar Chicken Croissants and three day old quiche? But the real burning question regarding the cafeteria this year is: now that they have raised the price of the candy machine to 55 cents (I guess they felt they were deserving of a 10% increase also, even though we haven't had any real inflation since the late 70's) when will someone take that green m&m out of the bot­tom portion of the machine where the candy drops. It's been there for at least six weeks. Sorry to bring it up, gang, but it's disgusting!!!

**ADVICE TO FIRST YEAR STUDENTS**

GET OUT!! QUICK!! FAST!! RUN!! IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!

(Just kidding) What!! you don't understand the Latin? Well don't worry about that. For decoding Latin phrases, just look it up in a legal dictionary. Those are the books that cost less than $45.00. Forget about the Latin, the real difficult part about law school is understanding the Eng­
lish. Instead of writing and speaking clearly in language that can be understood by any reasonably (there's that word again) intelligent person, lawyers choose to write with a flair and style for the obtuse that should be reserved for the Sunday New York Times crossword puzzle. (I wonder if Eugene T. Maleska is a lawyer??)

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**Open Casting Call For Fordham Follies**

Call the neighbors, wake the kids, steal jokes from David Letterman...the Fordham Follies is coming - and Fordham may never be the same. (in a strictly metaphysical way, of course).

Each year the "Fordham Fol­lies" presents two great shows. The fall production, "Talent Night", stars just about everybody doing just about everything. It will be a night you won't want to miss. A chance to see students and professors kicking up their heels and having a blast!!

This year's Fordham Follies will be the best one yet. However, we still need writers, actors, singers, tech crew and a whole lot more. First year evening to fourth year day, all are welcome and your schedules will be accommodated. If you have any experience singing, dancing, or acting come on down. If you don't have experience, come on down anyway.

To get involved in either production, all you have to do is fill out a "Fordham Follies Information Sheet" located on the Follies Board and put it in the "Completed Forms" folder also located on the Follies Board. Someone will get in touch with you shortly thereafter to fill you in on future meetings.

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**THE ADVOCATE OCTOBER 1989**
So You Want To Be An Associate

By Jim Kellett, Fordham '88

One morning last week I was asked to write this article describing my first year as an associate at a large New York law firm. I didn't immediately agree because I was fully expecting a major heart attack from the pressure of producing a brief due in federal court before the close of business. Later, however, believing that I would probably live, I dismissed the paramedics and agreed to share my thoughts on the past twelve months.

During the following weekend it occurred to me that the past week, expected coronary included, was in some ways representative of the entire year. The first two days of the week I worked on a number of the ten or so cases that I'm actively involved in at one time, and left at a decent hour. Wednesday I stayed until nearly midnight, making and assisting with last minute changes to "the Brief from Hell." Then, in early enough on Thursday to wish the partner in charge bon voyage (harvest time in Bordeaux) and to begin the process of finalizing the documentation. This involved, in a span of hours that seemed like minutes: over seeing critical language changes ("Jim, shouldn't we say 'staggered' instead of 'stumbled'?"); getting paralegals to fix imaginative citation forms, having secretaries and word processors make immediate changes, reviewing all revisions, stopping the clock to have copies made, and delivering the result to litigation support a mere fifteen minutes behind schedule, but ultimately with seconds to spare. Friday and Saturday, and Sunday were spent at the beach; and while some of the next week's work was in the bag with the number four lotion, it stayed there.

Like the last week, my first year experience has been a series of ups and downs; but, overall, the experience has been a very positive one. I mention the downsides from the outset only to make an important point. Those of you who choose to work at a large firm will be exposed to hard work, at least some long hours, and consistent pressure to do well. It has not, however, even approached the drudgery predicted by those prophets of doom who write for the various legal papers and periodicals.

During my last year at Fordham, I may have more associate's surveys than I did cases. As a result, I expected to bill 2,400 uninteresting hours, see clients only when they passed me in the halls, and be treated like a fraternity pledge. None of this has taken place. Of course, I have done my share of tedious, discreet research, and I know more about the operation of copy machines than I ever expected or desired. I've also prepared endless deposition questions, but not yet taken a deposition. I anticipated this type of work, but in much greater quantities than has actually been.

On the other hand, I've also been assigned work that surveys said would not be given to first-year associates. I've dealt independently with clients and with opposing counsel almost from the beginning. I've served as the sole attorney to a client's collective bargaining team, attending all negotiating sessions over a four month period. I'm now assisting a partner in a major litigation, interviewing witnesses, preparing questions for direct and cross examination, selecting exhibits, and generally assisting in all other aspects of the trial in and out of court. See "Brief from Hell," supra. Almost as surprising, I've actually been asked by partners to make opinion on legal and practical issues, so frequently now that I've gotten over the shock and am able to generate one on request.

Looking beyond the nature of the work and the level of responsibility, and moving to the more essential issues, I've taken all my vacations as planned, and cancelled at most three or four social engagements due to work. I've seen no evidence of Friday assignments made due on Monday, yet not read by the assignor for weeks or months. My questioning of deadlines for reasons ranging from emergency to work to emergency. Yankee games have all been met with concern or real attempts at accommodation, or both.

Lastly, and most important, I've been treated with respect by all partners and associates with whom I've worked: no beatings, no water torture, only a few minor, self-inflicted wounds. My pride and dignity (at least what was left after law school) are entirely intact.

This has been only brief description of my first year as an associate, and may or may not be typical of the large firm experience generally. From my perspective, there are high points and low points each week, if not each day. There's also hard work, the potential for responsible assignments, and more money than a person should make in his first year of doing anything. My overall analysis is, in a nutshell, "so far, so good."

Mr Kellet is a 2nd year associate at Proskauer Rose Goetz and Mendelson and a former evening student.

WHY A CLERKSHIP?

Joseph M. McLaughlin

The value of law clerking has been bruited about for some time. Knowing that law students are comfortable with multiple choice questions, I'll offer several commonly advanced advantages to clerking. Some praise the practical experience acquired in a clerkship. Others point to the covetted addition to an already impressive resume the clerkship will bestow. Former clerks, who presumably are the only qualified experts on the question, wistfully recall their one or two years working alongside a judge as the best of their professional lives. Of these choices I would adopt the last with cheerful resignation. I would propose, however, an additional selection to those routinely offered.

To the classical writer, the aim of any worthwhile pursuit was to teach and delight. To the law student preparing to chart a course for a legal career, I recommend a clerkship as the path most likely to teach and delight. While my observations are drawn primarily from my experience as a federal district court law clerk to Judge John F. Keenan in Manhattan, I am informed by other clerks that my experience is not atypical.

Few dispute that a clerkship is an intellectually nutritious experience. The law clerk becomes immersed in an at first intimidating variety of cases. While the criminal cases tend to be narcotics-related, the civil docket yields a host of varied subjects. At least in federal court, the clerk cannot avoid becoming reasonably proficient in admiralty, civil rights, intellectual property and securities law, and somewhat expert in procedural and evidentiary law.

When you begin a clerkship a general understanding of the substantive law areas is normally sufficient, but it behooves you to be familiar with the intricacies of evidence and civil procedure. Judges may not expect their new clerks to be Dean Wigmore, but they will assume you have a firm grasp of at least these two areas.

Most law clerks concur that one of the greatest advantages of clerking is the opportunity to observe the best and worst of legal professionals. You can learn from both, each cultivating your sense of judgement in different ways. From the skilled advocate you learn what is persuasive to judge and jury alike.

Of no less importance to the clerk is what he/she learns is displeasing to the decision-maker. While many lawyers will tell the truth and nothing but the truth in their arguments, they might not tell quite the advocate's position.

Because clerks spend much of their time reviewing legal memoranda and attending trials or oral arguments, they learn that brevity is the king's highway to seizing everyone's attention. I have seen several strong arguments fall upon the slack jaws and lightly glazed eyes of jurors unable to follow a rambling presentation.

Hoping to be spared do so earlier, I am now compelled to make a case that a clerkship is delightful. The task may seem improbable, but a clerkship rarely disappoints. In my first year out of law school, I had the opportunity of working on cases involving Beas Myerson, Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos, and Adrian Khastegari. A glance at the past year's headlines reveals that I am not the only clerk working on such interesting cases.

Another frequently overlooked enjoyment of clerking is the relatively relaxed manner in which the clerk may observe judicial proceedings. Many of the freshly-minted associates who accompany partners to court appear too harried to devote real attention to the unfolding proceeding. The law clerk's principal function in court, on the other hand, is to focus on lawyers' presentations, enabling the clerk to assist the judge in reaching thoroughly considered decisions.

I have deliberately sidestepped attempting to provide a universal description of what a clerk's responsibilities are because the duties vary substantially among judges. An excellent effort at defining the clerk's role in the judicial process is found in Oliva v. Heller, 839 F.2d 37 (2d Cir. 1988). No doubt I have left out a good deal, but suffice it to say that I have another year remaining in my clerkship. I would not have it any other way.

Joseph M. McLaughlin is the son of the former dean of, and current professor at, Fordham Law School, the Hon. Joseph P. McLaughlin.
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I was as prepared as I could have been. The exam itself had no surprises. It was a living nightmare, but BAR/BRI prepared me. If I have to do this again, I will take BAR/BRI again.
- Albany Law School

Your course was worth the money. I couldn’t imagine being more prepared. If I didn’t pass the fault in no way can be attributable to any mistake on your part. I also was very comforted by the feeling you all conveyed that you’re concerned and cared. It showed that customer satisfaction is important to you and I am satisfied customer! Thank you!
- Albany Law School

I am very happy with the BAR/BRI program. I feel that you provide an excellent program and I would highly recommend it to others. If I do not pass the bar, it will not be because of a lack of effort on behalf of the BAR/BRI personnel. Thank you for all your help.
- Brooklyn Law School

All in all, I was very satisfied with BAR/BRI. After hearing what Pieper does to his students’ poor hands, I’m truly glad I chose BAR/BRI. Variety is very good in the course of a summer.
- Brooklyn Law School

I was generally satisfied with the lectures and very glad for all the written materials you gave us (the outlines and practice questions). In addition, I appreciated your obvious support and encouragement for us during this very stressful period.
- Brooklyn Law School

Thank you for Essay #8 on the Bar. I was tired but when I saw the question, what an adrenal surge. I did well in the bar but having done Essay #8 already and knowing the model answer was a gift. Thank you!
- Brooklyn Law School

BAR/BRI was excellent. It prepared me for the bar. Hopefully, I no longer need your services, but I would do BAR/BRI again. I learned the law, not just memorized unnatural and for that I am grateful.
- Brooklyn Law School

The most effective thing about the BAR/BRI course was the model work. It’s pretty rigid. You know what you are doing at all time...I see more happy with BAR/BRI than other people seen in other courses.
- Brooklyn Law School

I was very impressed with BAR/BRI. The methods, techniques and materials were all very helpful. Most of all, I appreciated the way BAR/BRI made itself available to each member individually to give your personal home phone numbers to thousands of people who was both “daring” and commendable. No matter what the results of my exam will be, I know I will recommend BAR/BRI to others. God Bless!
- Buffalo Law School

I would recommend the course to others and don’t regret my choice.
- Buffalo Law School

BAR/BRI was great as far as giving me emotional support and confidence in what I did know; (not shaking my confidence because of what I didn’t know, like other bar candidates)...In addition, the good luck letter made me feel good. Thanks.
- Cardozo Law School

I didn’t find out what I liked about the course until last night when I was talking to one of my friends who was taking Pieper and even though he had all memorized down...I just found that he didn’t have the grip on the substantive law that I thought I did...I think the lectures really lay everything out for you. They are enough of an overview that is required to really be able to handle the essays. I would definitely recommend the BAR/BRI course to a friend.
- Cardozo Law School

BAR/BRI gave me structure that I needed for the bar. Looking back, I think I would be in a tough situation if I had to approach this on my own. I had a lot of friends who have been taking other courses and I was sort of compared what they’re learning and what I’m learning and I think that BAR/BRI is doing a really good job...The BAR/BRI personnel is very helpful. I’ve called Steve Rubin several times on the phone. He has always been available to answer questions. He really called me at 15 o’clock at night...Also, the office people have been really helpful too...I would definitely recommend BAR/BRI to anyone.
- Columbia Law School

The lectures were really terrible, I expected that sitting in front of a TV 3 hours a day would be unbearable, but for the most part they made it as enjoyable experience.
- Cornell Law School

I am completing this evaluation after the bar exam. I feel that BAR/BRI prepared me extremely well for the exam, and I would certainly recommend your course.
- Cornell Law School

I am very impressed with the whole operation - since you really have a couple of differences, I expect a lesser level of professionalism and caring. I have friends in other courses, some of whom are subjected to scare tactics and panic lectures. I appreciate the lack of this at BAR/BRI.
- Fordham Law School

I was very pleased with what I was taught. The way it was presented and the respect BAR/BRI shows its students. A professional, warm and top notch job! Thank you!
- Fordham Law School

The materials are very good. The most important thing about the course is that they give you what’s important and what isn’t. So you know what is likely to be on the test...The BAR/BRI people were very helpful. They are very, very nice and very cooperative. I’m very pleased.
- Fordham Law School

This is written 7/31. I felt well prepared for the questions on the exam. Where I was unsure I had no problem making something up...No doubt you heard the last essay was almost identical to a practice question. Good show!
- Georgetown Law School

It’s a joy to finally learn all the law I only heard about in law school.
- Harvard Law School

I like the fact that they have been very realistic about what they are trying to accomplish - to get us to pass. I like the fact that they really try. Despite the fact that there is really a large number of people in the course, I have actually gotten a lot of feedback on the essays...I think that my chances on passing are a lot better with this course...I took BAR/BRI under recommendation and I certainly recommend it to others.
- Harvard Law School

I am writing this evaluation after sitting for the New York State and Multistate exams (and before NJ). I would sincerely like to tell you that you all did a terrific job and deserve much praise. Thank you!
- Hofstra Law School

I thought BAR/BRI was outstanding in every way and I will recommend it to all who ask. Thanks to Stan, Steve, Erica and the BAR/BRI staff. You can be proud of your organization.
- New York Law School

Overall the course was very good. BAR/BRI helped make a miserable experience a lot more bearable. I’m glad I took the course.
- NYU Law School

I would definitely recommend the course to friends. I think it’s a good way to prepare for the bar. It does not put that much pressure on you. I followed the schedule. I found that during the course the schedule was not that difficult to keep up with. It still gave me a lot of free time.
- NYU Law School

Preparation has not been that painful at all.
- NYU Law School

The program is well-organized and set-up to 'spoon-feed' the material to the audience. After 3 years of law school, we’re all tired and this is just what is needed. I also appreciated all the "pop talks" and encouragement given throughout the lectures. I would highly recommend your course.
- Pace Law School

Overall - very satisfied with BAR/BRI - would recommend it to students in the future. Great job! Thanks!
- Pace Law School

For the most part I liked how they broke everything down into easy to remember bits and pieces. It's not really as confusing as it was in law school...I would highly recommend the course to my friends and I have friends taking the other courses and from what I see doing them, I think this is much better.
- Pace Law School

BAR/BRI was the best preparation for the bar exam. The staff cared about the students. BAR/BRI saved the anxiety of the bar exam.
- St. John’s Law School

BAR/BRI is to be praised. No gimmicks - they were not gurus. Merely stress hard work without falling off the deep end. I would, and will give my stamp of approval to friends, law students and anyone else who will listen. Thank you for running a first class operation.
- St. John’s Law School

I was very satisfied with the BAR/BRI course. The lectures were all good and interesting. I took no additional courses and I feel confident that the main course gave me adequate preparation.
- St. John’s Law School

I think BAR/BRI is a good course. It gives students everything they have to know...I found BAR/BRI people to be very responsive. I found that whenever I needed help, they were there to help me out...If I missed the course, I could always go to the tape lecture. I could go to the office and just listen to the tapes. I found that to be very good...I would definitely recommend BAR/BRI because it covers everything you have to know.
- St. John’s Law School

From Telling. You write a good essay and that's what really counts...I found the BAR/BRI personnel very helpful. I call the office all the time with questions and they have always gotten back to me or answered the question immediately...I would highly recommend BAR/BRI for anyone studying for the New York Bar.
- St. John’s Law School