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LEGAL JOB MARKET BLEAK AS SUPPLY LARGE - DEMAND SMALL

by

R. ROY FINKLE

In a previous article it was reported that a study of employment opportunities in the legal profession was being conducted. Interest in this area grew out of the frustrations many students experienced while going through the recruitment process earlier this year. What was probably the first exposure for most students to the legal job market left many quite concerned about the prospects of obtaining employment upon graduation, not to mention for the summer break. The study focused upon a question which was posed in a prior article: "Whether the market for legal services can absorb the increase in the number of newly graduated lawyers who will enter the Bar within the next few years?" Such an inquiry required consideration of the supply and demand for legal services, as well as the factors which tend to influence this relationship.

The actual supply of lawyers at any time up to the present can be obtained from such sources as the American Bar Association and the California State Bar Association. The historical trends in the growth of the lawyer population are given in the following table:

TOTAL NUMBER OF LAWYERS IN THE U.S.

1940	182,000
1950	184,000
1960	288,000
1970	327,000

These figures show the startling increase in the number of lawyers in the U.S. In the decade from 1940 to 1950 the legal population increased by only 2,000, but in the next decade (1950 to 1960) it increased by 108,000.

The potential supply of lawyers can be easily predicted from the present lawyer population and current law school enrollments.

BAR ADMISSION STATISTICS

Year	Total Enrollment	New Admissions to the Bar
1960	40,381	10,505
1965	59,744	13,109
1969	68,386	19,123
1970	82,041	17,922
1971	94,468	-----

Professor M. Ruud, Consultant on Legal Education to the A.B.A., calculated from this data that there will be 26,000 to 27,000 new admissions to the Bar in 1973. The projected lawyer population for 1985 is 654,000 which is double the number of lawyers in 1970.

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'BAR REVIEWS' REVIEWED

By Dan Dawes

The following are the bar review courses in the Los Angeles Basin: Bay Area Review Course (BAR); Beverly Rubens Writing Method Class; Josephson's Bar Review Center; California Baby Bar Course; California Nord Bar Review; Joseph O. Debus Bar Review; Charig's Private Bar Preparatory Course; Bar X Prep Course; Diagnostic Bar Review, Inc.; Steven A. Lande; Chet M. Potter Law Review; Francis C. Yee Bar Review and Writing Course; and Pals-Graph, Inc., a writing methods course for the bar. (Student Lawyer J. Vol. 17, no. 2) Three of the better known ones will be explained below to give an illustration of what a bar review course would provide, although this is not to be taken as an endorsement of any of them by the Pocket Docket.

Beverly Rubens offers 52 hours of lecture and instruction in writing technique and substantive law (torts, contracts, property, evi-

dence, crimes, and equity). The course is for six and one-half hours each on eight consecutive Sundays at a fee of 175 dollars. The next class will start in June.

For 225 dollars B.A.R. offers about 150 hours of instruction and examinations over a three month period on four to five evenings a week from 7 to 10 p.m. and during the day on some Saturdays (Comm. property, wills and trusts, criminal procedure, equity, civil procedure, torts, real property, crimes, evidence, and taxation.). For an extra 100 dollars, one may sign up for a special class in writing and analysis techniques.

For 50 dollars Pals-Graph offers a two day workshop (12 hours) on writing and examination methods. According to Mr. James Sword of Pals-Graph, this course is not designed to cover substantive law but instead concentrates on those examination techniques which statistically tend

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FINANCIAL NEED SHOULD JUSTIFY PART-TIME STUDY

by

Bob Albrecht

The recent faculty decision rejecting the petition of a young mother seeking part-time student status has provoked considerable controversy. What seemed particularly objectionable was that this woman's petition was denied, despite the fact that her situation was "factually indistinguishable" from that of another similarly situated mother whose petition for part-time status was accepted. The situation has led to a questioning of the law school's policy prohibiting part-time students.

The position of those favoring the retention of the present system (i.e., "full time" status for all students) seems to be based on two major premises. First, the quality of the student's legal education would be diminished by permitting students to attend on a part-time basis. Particularly in the first year, students benefit by studying all the basic subjects at the same time. This "intense dose" leads to a better understanding of the various subjects studied, as well as greater insight into their interrelation. Second, the law school itself would suffer by permitting part-time students, in that the "intellectual climate" of the institution would be diminished. It is argued that students would spend little time at school (presumably because they would be occupied by other pressing problems, e.g., children, jobs); that one of the primary educational experiences at law school is the interrelation between the members of the law school community; and that the frequency of these interrelations would be diminished if students were attending on a part-time basis only. In addition to these arguments, there also seems to be a feeling that the law school is a "professional school," and that somehow, a part-time student is embarking at the outset of his/her career on an "unprofessional" path. This attitude is evinced in the view that "if you REALLY want to be a lawyer, you will make the necessary sacrifices."

If these views really represent the rationale for the retention of the present system (requiring full time student status), then it seems that the present system is indefensible. As to the first position (the "intensive dose" argument), it is equally plausible that students can benefit if they have a little more time to study their subjects, and in particular, to do additional reading in their courses. How much benefit is derived from constant pressure just to "keep up" in your classes? In relation to the second position, it seems that whatever one's view of the "intellectual climate" here, it is hard to see how the introduction of a limited number

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1) SPRING QUARTER REGISTRATION:

Registration Packets and Enrollment Materials for the 1972 Spring Quarter will be available in the Records Office on the following dates:

1st Year Students--Wednesday, February 9

2nd and 3rd Year--Thursday, February 10 and Friday, February 11.

Students planning to enroll in the Quarter-Away Program during the Spring Quarter should see Diane Morgan in the Records Office. Students enrolling in the Clinical Programs (with the exception of Draft Counseling and Venice Legal Aid) will no longer be required to obtain the instructor's signature on their enrollment cards.

2) 1972 CALIFORNIA BAR EXAM INFORMATION:

The California Bar Examination will be conducted on July 25, 26, and 27, 1972. The new multistate portion will be given July 26; the other two days are for essay questions.

Deadline for registration (without penalty) for the July Bar is March 1, 1972. The filing fee for California residents is \$75.00; out-of-state fee is \$150.00. Applications will be available in the Records Office as soon as they are required.

3) FINANCIAL AID (DEAN RAPPAPORT'S OFFICE):

- a) LAW WIVES' SCHOLARSHIP applications are still available in Rm. 1446. Deadline for applications for the three \$50 scholarships (awarded to one first, second, and third year law student on the basis of need and academic standing) is February 11. Winners will be announced at the Professors' Dinner on February 19.
- b) LEGAL SECRETARIES, INC. SCHOLARSHIP of \$400 will be awarded to a female law student who is registered as an applicant with the State Bar of California. Applications are available in Rm. 1446; application deadline is March 1, 1972. For further information, contact Dean Rappaport's office (Rm. 1446).
- c) FLORENCE-VIRGINIA WILSON SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS (1971-72): If you have not already picked up your awards for this quarter, please do so as soon as possible.

4) SEMINAR ON AMERICAN TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS:

A discussion of land tenure in the Pacific Islands will be held Thursday, Feb. 17 at 3 p.m. in Rm. 1327. The main emphasis will be on the survival of native customs in a court of law. All interested parties are invited to attend.

5) CALIFORNIA INDIAN LEGAL SERVICES:

Bored with Law School? Spend the Spring Quarter on an Indian Reservation. Get 12 units credit. Live near Aspen or Mammoth. See Jacky Leavitt (Rm. 2467C) or Professor Chambers (Rm. 3306) for further information.

6) MICRONESIA QUARTER - AWAY:

Interviews for first and second year students interested in a quarter-away in Micronesia during the Spring, Summer, and Fall will be held Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 14 and 15, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Signups are being taken in the Placement office.

7) MOOT COURT:

The UCLA Moot Court Honors Program is sponsoring an Intra-city Moot Court Tournament on Feb. 18, 19, and 23 in the Moot Court Hearing Room. Participating schools are Loyola, Southwestern, USC, and UCLA.

8) EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE REQUIRED:

JACK AVERY, UCLA second year student, urgently needs blood donations. Jack was taken to Kaiser Inglewood with a bleeding ulcer, and required frequent transfusions. Any person who can donate blood is requested to go to Red Cross at 1100 Veteran, and specify that the donation is for John Avery at Kaiser Inglewood. The Bloodmobile will be at the Red Cross today from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

POCKET DOCKET staff:

Dave Ferguson, Roy Finkle, "Fast Eddie" Gauthier, Warren Putnam, Dan Dawes, Steve Cannon and Arnie Gross

BAR REVIEWS...

to be rewarded by bar examiners. Sword said that the Pals-Graph course is meant to be supplemental to a course reviewing substantive law and would be of benefit to first and second year students with respect to writing law school exams.

The California Bar Review Course (CBRC) a past major competitor in the bar review business, is now thought to be defunct and no information is available from them.

Do these courses fill a real need or merely capitalize on the anxiety of graduating students facing the final decisive exam, and the state bar?

Mr. Michael Asimow, member of the faculty at U.C.L.A. and a B.A.R. lecturer feels that the bar review courses do fill a positive need for the poorer students or graduates from the unaccredited law schools.

Dean Murray Schwartz says that in the days when UCLA ranked their students numerically, "there was a perfect statistical correlation between a student's rank and the probability of his passing the bar the first time."

Both Asimow and Schwartz feel that the bar exam tests students for the same qualities as do the exams during law school at UCLA.

This observation leads naturally to the question, "if law school itself serves as a three year preparation for the bar, why are bar review courses necessary?" Again both Asimow and Schwartz feel that since an extensive review before the bar is necessary anyway, there is benefit to be gained by taking advantage of the structured review materials prepared by a bar review course.

In response to the question whether the Law School ought to prepare its students for the bar, Schwartz replied that the private sector was doing the job as cheaply as the Law School could, and also the School's manpower resources are too limited. Asimow went on to say that a UCLA review course would probably require cutting other courses, which would result in a net loss to the students.

As to whether it was ethical for a law professor to accept a salary with one hand and fees for bar preparation with the other, Schwartz says that it is, as long as the professor does not withhold information for the purposes of making the bar review course functionally mandatory for passing the bar or increasing the course's economic value. Mr. Asimow feels that he had no ethical conflict between his duties as a professor and as a B.A.R. lecturer. He did say, however, that there are certain topics which he does not teach in class because they are unimportant, but he does teach them at B.A.R. because they are on the bar exam.

Probably, none of this has helped you to decide whether to pay the considerable sums for a canned bar review course, or resort to self-study. Generally, the statistics show that about 1 to 5% more students pass the bar after having taken a bar review course as compared to the average from their school. However, rumor has it that most students do take a bar review course. It's that one last "Gilbert's Outline" before that one last exam.

In the last analysis, the best preparation for the bar is to learn how to write the "proper" answers during the three years of law school. But assuming that the law school retains the traditional essay form of examination, query whether the shift of the bar exam to an objective type answer will change the character of bar review courses and destroy the correlation between bar exam results and law school grades.

PART-TIME STUDY...

of part-time students could seriously hurt that climate.

But perhaps the most persuasive reason for the institution of a part-time program for a limited number of students is that it would constitute an act of simple justice. Should otherwise qualified persons be denied access to a legal education merely because they have obligations to their family (providing income, or caring for children), because they have medical problems, or for other similar compelling reasons? In the balance, is it more important that all students receive an "intensive dose," or that some students who can show the need be permitted to study part-time (as

opposed to being denied a legal education)? Should the law school be permitted to discriminate against those students who have such obligations, but who can discharge their obligations and study on a part-time basis too?

The present system reinforces the elitist nature of the law school. It favors those with financial security and affluence, and discriminates against those with limited financial resources. It puts an unfair burden on those students who must support themselves. It puts an unfair burden on parents who can study part time and care for their children, but who cannot study full time and care for their children.

MARKET STUDY...

The capacity of law schools is the final determinant of the supply of lawyers. However, this capacity can be increased by (1) increases in the enrollment of existing institutions, (2) reduction of law school attrition, (3) upgrading of unapproved law schools, and (4) establishment of new law schools. As for the first point, it would appear that many law schools are now reaching the upper limits of their capacity. The A.B.A. conducted a survey of the 147 schools they have accredited and all but three of these schools reported that their freshmen classes are completely filled. The three schools with vacancies had a total of 87 unfilled positions. The remaining three factors mentioned above are all occurring now and given the fact that existing schools may expand their physical plants to accommodate more students, it would appear that the prior projections of the potential lawyer population in the next decade are well within reach.

Since there are a lot of lawyers around and many, many more on the horizon, the issue becomes "Will the market be able to absorb this large increase?" Future demand projections for lawyers seem to defy prediction. The most that can be done is to look at the nature of this demand, examine indicators of current demand, and consider what impact major changes in the legal profession might have on it. Examination of historical data indicates that there is a very close correlation between the growth in the number of lawyers and the growth in the population and economy of the U.S. Therefore, a measure of future demand can be based on projected growth rates in the population and the economy. However, things are never that simple. The rate of increase of the population is slowing down, with current demographic projections suggesting that the national population will probably increase by no more than 10% in the next decade (compare that to the previous projection of the number of lawyers, which is for an increase of 100% in the next 15 years).

Turning to the economy, two problems are readily apparent. Our economic growth pattern is cyclical to which the need for legal services appears to be quite sensitive (see the subsequent data on the contraction in the number of firms interviewing at UCLA following the recent downturn in economic activity). If there is a continued period of economic growth which stimulates demand for legal services, the short run effect is to increase the need for lawyers which bids up salaries (see subsequent data on the fluctuation of legal salaries). The long run effect of increased salaries and opportunities in the legal field is to increase the demand for legal education. However, this is not a perfect relationship by any means, and there is also a time lag from the time the legal profession begins to become more attractive to students and the time when these students enter the legal job market. By the time more lawyers start to enter the market place, the demand for legal services may be tapering off due to an economic downturn, etc. When this occurs the nation experiences an oversupply of lawyers (sound familiar?) which tends to level off legal salaries and decrease employment opportunities. This leveling causes many lawyers to explore areas of employment other than the traditional avenues; for instance, instead of seeking employment with a medium to large law firm, the newly graduated lawyer will give more consideration to private practice. Two indicators of current demand are the interviewing activity by firms, industry and Government agencies, and the salaries being offered to law school graduates. The following table shows the interviewing activity at UCLA.

UCLA LAW SCHOOL INTERVIEWING STATISTICS

Year	Firms	Corporations	Government Agencies	Total
66-67	71	11	21	103
67-68	102	8	29	139
68-69	91	8	46	145
69-70	87	10	21	118
70-71	76	7	26	109
71-72	81	7	25	113

The interviewing patterns for the law firms, Government agencies and the total activity show clear patterns which correlate with U.S. economic activity for the same period. For instance, in the latter part of the 69-70 school year, it was fairly clear that the previous growth rate in the economy was decreasing. This year also showed a significant decrease in the total interviewing activity. The interviewing activity for the law firms appears to have peaked earlier but this could be due to the fact that the pattern of expansion for law firms might be episodic in character rather than continuous in relation to U.S. economic activity. The most significant information from this table is that although there has been some recovery in the amount of interviewing activity through the Placement Center, it has not returned to previous levels. This is important in light of the fact that law school enrollments are up and would tend to indicate that the demand for legal services is still "soft" and probably will continue to be so until there is a significant recovery in the economic sector.

A different way to use the interviewing activity as a measure of demand is to observe the changes in interviewing activity by firms over a longer period of time. Approximately ten years ago, law students were gen-

MARKET STUDY...

orally not hired until they had passed the Bar and little recruitment was done through the law school. As the demand for lawyers increased, it became the practice to hire a recent law school graduate before he passed the Bar. With increasing competition for graduates, recruiting for summer programs became common in order to become acquainted with the "top" students at an earlier point in time. The summer programs were then expanded to include students with less distinguished grades and also to include some students who were between their first and second years.

Judging from the job market conditions for summer employment in law related positions for last year, and the responses for this coming summer, (although feedback is not as good as it could be), it would appear that the demand for lawyers has definitely decreased. There has been a showing of some recent minor improvement but the data will not be complete until the end of this academic year.

Legal salaries have shown the same trend as interviewing activity. As the demand in the middle and late 60's for lawyers increased, so did the salaries offered to recent law school graduates. The most notable occurrence was the \$15,000 starting salary offered by Cravath, Swaine and Moore in February, 1968. However, since 1968 starting salaries for lawyers have not reflected the increases in the cost of living. These figures tend to reflect the current softened economy and the increase in the number of lawyers and graduates available for work. J. E. Quigley, Placement Officer at the National Law Center Placement Office at George Washington University stated that "salary levels have stabilized for attorneys in the last year. The economic slowdown has tightened the job market considerably. In a buyer's market, I expect there won't be any change in salary levels for 1971."

One must conclude that with respect to the supply of and the demand for legal services, there are definite problems. Subsequent articles will continue the analysis of the job situation and explore possible solutions. Future topics are:

- 1) The impact of recent changes in the legal profession upon the supply and demand for legal services.
- 2) Current salary structures for recent law school graduates.
- 3) The interviewing process and its use in seeking employment.
- 4) Employment opportunities and alternatives for law school graduates.

THE MARKET PLACE

(Caveat Emptor)

OFF THE PIG--Pet pig for sale (miniature, female, sterile). My landlord doesn't understand. She is loving, intelligent, and cute. Call 828-1261 after 6 or 828-4587 (Mon., Thurs., Fri., afternoons and Saturdays).

PLUSH PAD FOR RENT--Mammoth Condominium (Fireplace, Stereo, TV, Kitchen, Jacuzzi, Sauna, Pool Table). \$5 per person per night. Call Bill Lawrence eves at 360-0146.

JEWELRY AT DISCOUNT--Diamond wedding rings, fine jewelry. All at wholesale plus 10%. Call Jonathan Klar at 476-1333 or 344-4891.

FOR SALE--Golf Bag and Pull Cart--\$20; Golf Bag--\$15; Accutron Watch (new, almost)--\$100. Call Michael Lee at 645-6733.

HOSTILE WITNESS--Read and contribute articles to that bastion of independence--HW. Murray S says: "It's the 2nd best paper at the Law School." Karst opines "You're just plain hostile." Coffman's thoughts aren't printable. Articles may be left in CCPC office.

MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE--1969 Honda 350 CL. Must sell. \$250 or best offer. Call Leon Kos at 396-2611.

MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE--1970 Harley Davidson Sportster, 900 cc, custom paint, chrome, good condition. \$1650/offer. Jim Jordan, 1539 S. Bundy; call 826-0238.

HOUSE FOR RENT--3 Bedroom House Santa Monica. \$325 + utilities. Call 451-3649 (Ken Salzberg).

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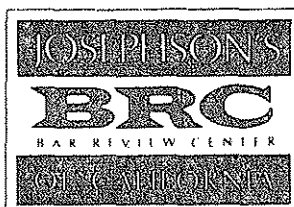


AUGUST 1971 EXAM
BRC PASSED 98%
STATE PASSED 92.8%



AUGUST 1971 EXAM
BRC PASSED 93%
STATE PASSED 76%

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