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UCLA Women's Law Journal

Title

Editor's Note - Queer Studies: The Examination of Sexual Orientation Bias by the Legal Profession

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/8z1219qf>

Journal

UCLA Women's Law Journal, 8(2)

Author

Women's Law Journal, [No author]

Publication Date

1998

DOI

10.5070/L382017694

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EDITORS' NOTE

QUEER STUDIES: THE EXAMINATION OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION BIAS BY THE LEGAL PROFESSION

The legal profession is increasingly considering the problem of sexual orientation bias within its ranks. Since 1991, when the Bar Association of San Francisco, through its Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues, undertook the first such study, eleven additional bar reports have been issued throughout the United States.

As part of its symposium on same-sex rights, the *UCLA Women's Law Journal* is pleased to present two examinations of these studies of sexual orientation bias. First, Jennifer Durkin, a second year law student at UCLA, describes each of these eleven studies. Durkin provides basic information about each report (its title, authors, date, and guidance to readers on how to obtain a copy), and she describes each report's goals, methodology, structure, and recommendations. Durkin's work provides an invaluable service to individuals and groups conducting these types of studies in the future, as it pulls together the relevant background materials that exist at the outset of 1998.

Durkin's work also enables some preliminary observations about these early studies of sexual orientation bias. Following her description of the studies, UCLA Law Professor William Rubenstein provides some reflections on the context from which these studies arise, the strengths and weaknesses of the studies to date, and recommendations to help guide future efforts.

