

SCHOLARS IN THE SQUARE







Called to the Bar: Religious Lawyering in the Secular Practice of Law

I have interviewed 85 lawyers, law professors, and law students across Canada who identify as members of a religious tradition—an identity that shapes the way they practice, teach, and study law. Some spoke of the discrimination they've faced, others the need to hide their religious identity to protect their reputation. Rather than assuming that there is an inherent conflict between religious belonging and legal practice, my interviewees believe the two complement one another. In this talk I explore their perspectives, and some of the tensions that arise.

Paige Thombs is a PhD Candidate in the Faculty of Law. Her research interests revolve around the ways in which we talk about—or don't talk about—religion in Canada.

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