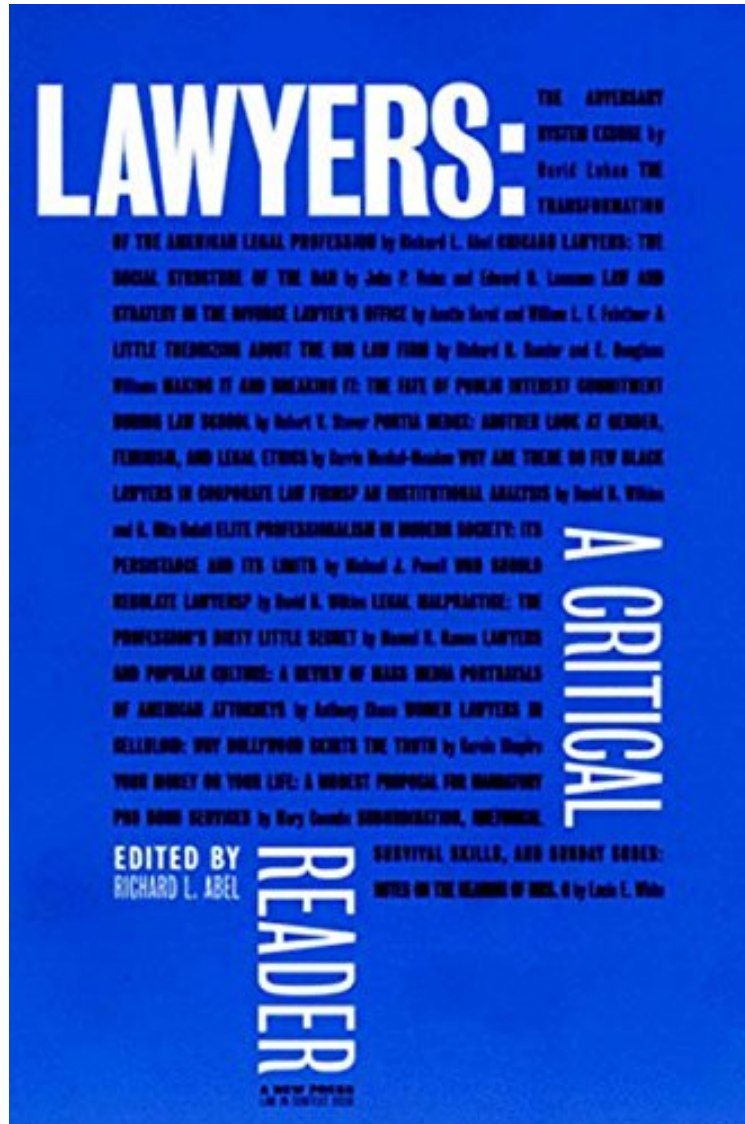


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Lawyers: A Critical Reader

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From The New Press : **Lawyers: A Critical Reader** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lawyers: A Critical Reader:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. outdatedBy Emily Clark This book was required material for a course I took this summer. For a seminar style class focused generally on how to maintain a moral compass while practicing law, I thought the majority of the articles within this book to be very out dated. For example, when reading in 2009 about the advancement of african american attorneys in the legal profession, I don't want to read arguments written in 1990 that are based on studies from the 1970's. I suppose that's not the book's fault, but rather a problem

with the pairing of this text with that specific class. I will note though that this book is very left-leaning and my more conservative classmates were grinding their teeth through every article.

Lawyers brings together thirty-five outstanding excerpts and articles on the legal profession in the first reader to address the whole range of vital questions concerning lawyers and their increasing impact on all aspects of society. Are lawyers merely hired guns or are they morally responsible for the clients they represent? Who does and does not obtain legal services? How does law school make students more conservative? Can law contribute to the creation of a more just society? Comprehensive and provocative, Lawyers offers a broad overview, critically examining the occupations claim to professional status, describing dramatic changes both at home and abroad, and looking at the ways lawyers govern and monitor themselves. The book also examines who is admitted to the bar, emphasizing those long excluded women and racial minorities and the range of jobs lawyers perform, especially the two extremes of private practice: solo or small firms, and megafirms with thousands of employees in offices around the world. Lawyers is the perfect book for a country of would-be Clarence Darrows and their many admirers and critics.

Richard Abel's collection of essays on the legal profession in the raw, from the practical to the ideal, is for lawyers, judges, and law students to ponder and act accordingly. The laser-beam insights and candor in this volume etch both the higher promise and the unfulfilled performance of our society's most powerful and catalytic profession. -- Ralph Nader
About the Author Richard L. Abel is Connell Professor of Law at UCLA. He is a recipient of the Law and Society Association's Harry Kalven prize for his work on the legal profession.