

(Library ebook) Lives of Lawyers: Journeys in the Organizations of Practice (Law, Meaning, and Violence)

Lives of Lawyers: Journeys in the Organizations of Practice (Law, Meaning, and Violence)

Michael J. Kelly

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Michael J. Kelly : Lives of Lawyers: Journeys in the Organizations of Practice (Law, Meaning, and Violence) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lives of Lawyers: Journeys in the Organizations of Practice (Law, Meaning, and Violence):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant overview of organizations at work By Kathleen Pluth We spend our lives in organizations, but how often do we have a chance to think about them clearly? Kelly sets a standard for thinking about a profession that everyone finds fascinating. This book is to non-fiction what Grisham's are to fiction: Kelly brings the practice of law to life. The book combines thorough, long-term research with an engaging style. Kelly analyzes several different types of law practices: their histories and likely futures. Through him we meet the lawyers, but more importantly, we meet the practice of law.

America has long enjoyed a love/hate relationship with its attorneys; jokes equating lawyers with vermin abound at the same time that our love of litigation is reflected in a doubling of the ranks of lawyers since the 1960s. Though we often see the lawyer as a crusading lone wolf of justice, the illuminating Lives of Lawyers demonstrates that the integrity of individual lawyers is fundamentally influenced by the nature of the legal organizations that have come to dominate the field. In fleshing out these agencies of legal expertise, Kelly offers important insights into the personal ideals of lawyers, the struggle to clarify professionalism as interpreted by the legal origination, and the effects of these

factors on society's perceptions of law and lawyering.

From Publishers Weekly Exploring the "real frontier of professionalism and legal ethics," Kelly, a professor of law at Georgetown University, offers five case studies of the practice organization--"a central feature in the landscape of the legal profession." One firm aggressively grows to compete at the top level; another draws on graduates from the less elite law schools and sacrifices high income for collegiality; and a cause-oriented small firm struggles to make ends meet. Lawyers working in corporate legal departments value their role in a large business organization, whereas those at a public utilities commission find fulfillment in their fidelity to the public interest. The author concludes that "house norms," rather than the organized bar, will define professionalism for lawyers in the future. A specialized approach for informed readers. Copyright 1994 Cahners Business Information, Inc.