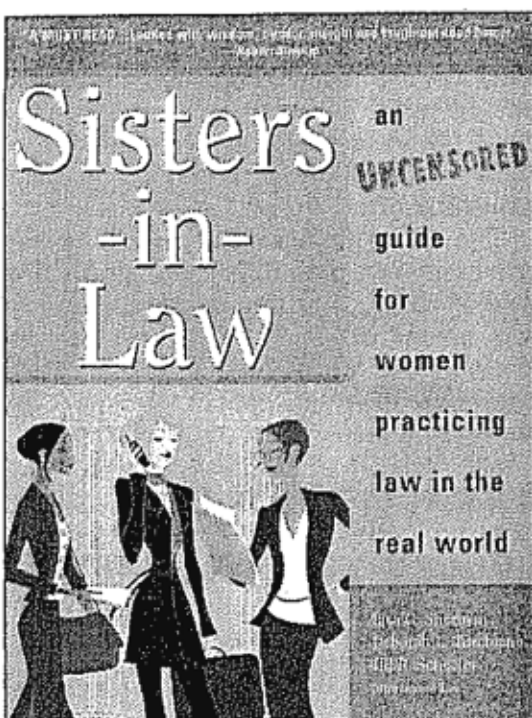




BurrellesLuce



SISTERHOOD: A new book helps women cope with the pitfalls of practice.

Guide for women

THE CO-AUTHOR of a saucy new survival guide for young women attorneys has borrowed her husband's surname "for purposes of writing this book only." So reads the acknowledgements page of *Sisters-in-Law: an Uncensored Guide for Women Practicing Law in the Real World*, published last month.

Deborah L. Turchiano, 36, a former corporate associate at a large Manhattan firm, asks further that the consultancy that now employs her remain nameless, due to her more freewheeling prose on delicate matters such as:

- What happens when you lock up hormonally charged lawyers in their 20s and 30s in a building for days at a time, barring any contact with the outside world? You guessed it: sex, sex and more sex.

- The cost of a luxurious lifestyle [at a large firm] is steep. You must be willing to sacrifice leisure for loot, pride for perks and ego for eternal servitude.

- [I]f you can afford it and it is your calling to be a stay-at-home mommy—by all means do so and do not feel guilty! Your career is not over by a long shot... [W]e are blessed with permanent skills that transcend time.

Ms. Turchiano wrote *Sisters* with Los Angeles attorneys Lisa G. Sherman and Jill R. Schecter.

"Our main message is, you're going to be overwhelmed and you're not going to know what's going on and not too many people are going to help you,"

Turchiano, a graduate of the Frederic G. Levin College of Law at the University of Florida, Gainesville, said in an interview. "You're going to make mistakes. You'll be stupid at the beginning. Everybody's been through it. You'll be OK."

The genesis of the book was a 10-year exchange of amusing tales and flat-out rants about life on the job, after which it occurred to the author/attorneys that they had the guts of a book.

"So we bought *Publishing for Dummies*," Turchiano said, "and sent our manuscript all over the place."

Los Angeles attorney Robert Shapiro, lead counsel in the O.J. Simpson murder trial, hailed the book as "loaded with wisdom, candor, insight and laugh-out-loud humor."

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