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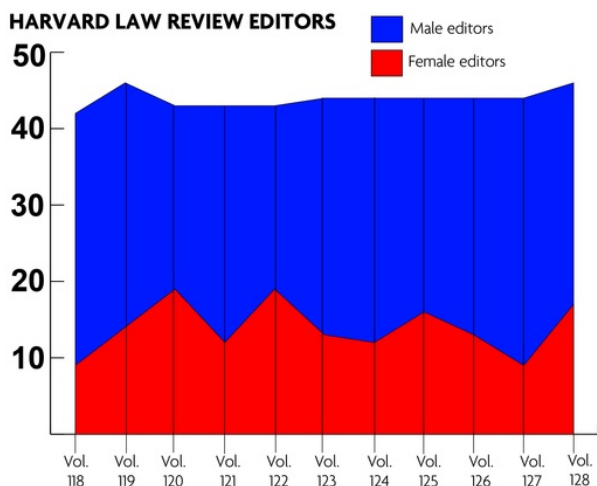
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Number of Female Harvard Law Review Editors Nearly Doubled in First Gender-Based Affirmative Action Cycle

By [Dev A. Patel](#), Crimson Staff Writer
 October 7, 2013



CINDY CHOI

In addition to expanding the size of the board to 46 editors, the Law Review instituted a new gender component to its affirmative action policy. The newest board has more female editors than any volume since volume 122 in 2007.

In the first cycle since the Harvard Law Review incorporated **gender-based affirmative action** into its admissions process, 17 out of 46 editors are women, nearly double last year's 9 female members of 44 overall.

The 128th volume boasts more women on its staff than any board since volume 122 was selected in 2007.

In the admissions process, interested candidates participate in a writing competition consisting of a 'subcite' component, which involves correcting

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errors in a short written piece and a commentary section in which applicants report and analyze a recent case before the United States Supreme Court. This week-long process takes place after the completion of first-year final exams in the spring semester.

This year, the Law Review received 267 applicants, a “somewhat higher” number than past years, according to President Gillian S. Grossman '10, a third-year student at the Law School.

Of this pool of candidates, 20 editors were admitted based solely on their writing competition scores and 14 were selected based on a combination of their first-year grades and writing competition scores. Gender was not considered in evaluating the candidacy of any of these 34 applicants.

Ten newly selected editors underwent the Law Review’s updated discretionary process. These ten spots are filled based on the review of a discretionary committee that assesses applicants’ grades, writing test scores, race, physical disabilities, and for the first time ever this year, gender.

The policy change, which was instituted in January, is intended to “enhance the diversity of the editorial body,” Grossman told The Crimson at the time.

Grossman declined to comment on whether the shift in the admissions process was a success. However, it is unclear whether the increase in female editors is due to the new affirmative action policy or if more women were selected by chance using the gender-blind processes.

This change comes amid increased activism at the Law School over the place of women. A newly established organization called “Shatter the Ceiling” has raised issues with the number of female faculty, women’s participation in the classroom, and female representation in organizations such as the Law Review that impact job prospects after graduation.

A second major initiative, an expansion of the Law Review’s membership from 44 to 46 editors, was approved concurrently by second-year editors last winter alongside the expansion of the journal’s affirmative action policy. For the most recently selected volume, two editors who had been admitted in previous cycles deferred due to their enrollment in joint-degree programs.

In addition to publishing the Law Review, the new volume will be involved in redesigning the journal’s website which Grossman hopes to launch by February 2014.

—Staff writer Dev A. Patel can be reached at dev.patel@thecrimson.com. Follow him on Twitter @dev_a_patel.

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Realist • 5 years ago

"[I]t is unclear whether the increase in female editors is due to the new affirmative action policy or if more women were selected by chance using the gender-blind processes." Doesn't matter. To everyone who hires HLS students or alums, every woman on the Law Review -- just like every person of color or every person with a physical disability -- will now be presumed to have made it under the affirmative action program. Way to go Law Review, you have just devalued membership for everyone except white males.

12 ^ | v • Reply • Share

Guest → Realist • 5 years ago

Per the first link in the article, the Law Review's affirmative action policy affects the admission of, at most, 12 of the 46 editors. Your mental extension of the policy to all 17 women regardless of the actual numbers says more about you than about the Law Review or its selection processes.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share

Basta → Guest • 5 years ago

Problem is that there's no way of knowing which of the 17 are there only because of the policy, and even if it's a bit less than 12 it's still a majority or nearly so. So, if you see a woman editor then you now know a good chance she would not have been chosen under a gender-blind process. Is that a good outcome — especially for the women who *did* make it purely on their merits, without the benefit of an affirmative-action thumb on the scale?

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share

Guest → Guest • 5 years ago

It's still forcing incompetents into positions of power. As Steve Moxon shows in The Woman Racket (Sex at Work), most women simply don't have the biological inclination or the chops to compete with men as 'men'. Harvard Business School's silly hand raising circus shows precisely why feminist gender goons richly deserve the scorn they have so rightly earned.

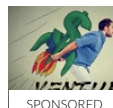
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James • 5 years ago

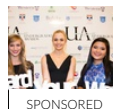
Look at how the numbers fluctuate in the graph; the increase this year doesn't seem statistically significant at all!

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Guest → James • 5 years ago



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It's called the Woman's Way of Knowing. No questioning is permitted. So be careful or you'll be censored.

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Guest · 5 years ago

Funny how feminist gender bigots never call for equality of outcome in the sexed Death Gap isn't it? Men do 98% of the dying in combat so that feminists are free to tell loathsome lies...about men. Men do 95% of the dying on the job so that feminists can fantasize about an imagined 'gender pay gap'. And men die 5 years earlier than women as the Disposable Sex but feminists would have us believe that it's the Coddled Sex which is 'oppressed'. We need an affirmative action program for gender based disposability...particularly for feminist gender bigots. Let's Shatter the Glass Floor for these girls...so that they can enjoy true equality for once.

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Guest → Guest · 5 years ago

No. It is the poor who die. In Vietnam, it was the poor who could not evade the draft. It is the poor of Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Palestine, etc. who suffer and die at the hands of soldiers and states with megalomaniacal dreams. It is the poor who die from lack of health care. Historically, it has always been rich, rich men who send poor men to war.

But nothing compares to the poverty of spirit in your words. Behind your hateful language, a dead intellect dwells. For we are able to kill others when we view them as lesser, as subpar. When we see each other as equal among gender, race, nationality, and all, then coercing a populace to violence will end. Therefore, if you truly fear dying, why would you not support equality? For with each barbed word, someone views you as less equal and your prophecy becomes self-fulfilled.

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Guest → Guest · 5 years ago


Hardly. it's males who die and feminists who lie. Males also die for lack of health care because almost all of the publicly funded health care goes to the already utterly Coddled Sex. You can go read Moxon's The Woman Racket for the whole sorry story.

And nothing compares to the pigheaded anti-male bigotry of the hysterically hateful 'equality' movement you seem to be backing here. Feminists do indeed kill, imprison and impoverish others because they see men and boys as totally inferior to their morally and now 'spiritually' superior 'gender' (that is sex). Coercing a populace with female vice...which is the tried and true way to induce mass totalitarian violence...will end when the Dark Side of Woman finally sees the light of day. I do support equality in female dying as well as the law suit the National Coalition of Men brought against the Selective Service to include women as equals in the Draft. You can also be sure that feminist bigots (eg mainstream 'gender' feminists) see men as far more equal when we dare to go Klanswoman hunting. And if, you even HAVE the least little bit of intellect or spirit, you've got to be aware that feminism has nothing whatever to do with equality...in it's ideology or in it's application. So please don't play the personal attack game when you are waxing lame about 'equality'.

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guest → Guest · 5 years ago

 I think you need to get laid, bro.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

 **Guest** → guest · 5 years ago

And I guess I've got to go be a hero for some feminist babe to get laid too, bro?

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

 **Yee** · 5 years ago

Great article, Dev!

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

 **Atticus Finch** · 5 years ago

"Ten newly selected editors underwent the Law Review's updated discretionary process. These ten spots are filled based on the review of a discretionary committee that assesses applicants' grades, writing test scores, race, physical disabilities, and for the first time ever this year, gender."

The new process seems designed to flatly violate Title IX's prohibition of gender discrimination. This whole scam is going to become even messier when the SCOTUS blows away what's left of racial "factoring" in affirmative action programs later this year. Fire up those class action lawsuits!

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 **ShadrachSmith** · 5 years ago

How did Obama get on the Law Review?

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