

Participant Information Sheet

Researcher:

The study is being carried out by the following researchers:

- Professor Ariadne Vromen, Australian National University.
- Professor Rae Cooper, University of Sydney
- Dr Meraiah Foley, University of Sydney
- Dr Briony Lipton, University of Sydney

Project Title: Designing Gender Equality into the Future of Work

General Outline of the Project:

- **Description and Methodology:**

The study aims to identify key labour market and workplace transformations in the law and to understand how these changes might affect women and men differentially within the profession. We are seeking to understand what can be done now to identify and address gendered inequalities in the future of work within the law.

- **Participants:**

You have been invited to participate in this study because of your knowledge and experience of the law. This Participant Information Statement tells you about the research study. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the study. Please read this sheet carefully and ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about.

- **Use of Data and Feedback:**

The research findings will be used to assist policymakers and professional leaders in building a more equitable future.

- **Project Funding:**

This study is funded by the Australian Research Council's Linkage Scheme.

Participant Involvement:

- **Voluntary Participation & Withdrawal:**

Being in this study is completely voluntary and you are not under any obligation to consent to complete the questionnaire. Submitting a completed questionnaire is an indication of your consent to participate in the study. You can withdraw any time prior to submitting your completed questionnaire. Once you have submitted your questionnaire anonymously, your responses cannot be withdrawn.

- **What does participation in the research entail?**

You will be asked research questions about trends within the law, including where relevant, their impact on women and men working within the profession. Researchers will ask about the changing organisation of work, relevant technological innovations, shifting skill demands, and changes at work over the past 18 months. You will also be asked for your views on gender inclusion and diversity in the profession. All aspects of the study, including results, will be strictly confidential and survey responses will be fully anonymised. A report of the study may be submitted for publication, but individual participants will not be identifiable in such a report.

- **Location and Duration:**

The Law Society of NSW will send you an invitation to complete a survey which links to the survey host platform: Ipsos Social Research Institute. The survey will take approximately 15 minutes.

- **Risks:**

Aside from giving up your time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or costs associated with taking part in this study.

- **Benefits:**

We cannot guarantee that you will receive any direct benefits from being in the study.

Confidentiality:

- **Confidentiality:**

Your information will only be used for the purposes outlined in this Participant Information Statement. By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting information about you for the purposes of this research study.

Privacy Notice:

In collecting your personal information within this research, the ANU must comply with the Privacy Act 1988. The ANU Privacy Policy is available at https://policies.anu.edu.au/pp1/document/ANUP_010007 and it contains information about how a person can:

- Access or seek correction to their personal information;
- Complain about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle by ANU, and how ANU will handle the complaint.

Data Storage:

- **Where:**

Your information will be stored securely. Your email address is only used for the purposes of the NSW Law Society's initial contact inviting you to participate in the study. Study findings may be published, but you will not be individually identifiable in these publications.

During the study, electronic data will be stored on the Australian National University's Cloudstor storage facility which is subject to the strongest data security protocols. All data is password protected and encrypted.

- **How long:**

Data will be retained for a period of 5 years after the study within the Australian National University's secure Research Data Store (RDS).

- **Handling of Data following the required storage period:**

After the data is no longer needed for the current research, and after the period of 5 years after it will be destroyed.

Queries and Concerns:

- **Contact Details for More Information:**

When you have read this information, Dr Briony Lipton will be available to discuss it with you further and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to know more at any stage during the study, please feel free to contact Dr Briony Lipton at briony.lipton@sydney.edu.au or 0431 685 188.

Ethics Committee Clearance:

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee (Protocol 2021/184). If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee
The Australian National University
Telephone: +61 2 6125 3427
Email: Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au