

A WOMAN'S place

100 YEARS OF QUEENSLAND WOMEN LAWYERS



A Woman's Place is a revelation and a joy to read. Rich in history—it spans a period that starts long enough ago to be viewed as anachronistic and continues right up to present time—the book surveys how far women lawyers have come and how much further they have to go ... These are stories that law students and young lawyers—both men and women—should read to understand the spirit and ethic that sustains the legal profession. They show why women's hearts and minds are necessary to the profession and how much the profession has been enriched as a result. *A Woman's Place* is a wonderful accomplishment.

—The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, PC
Chief Justice of Canada

I have seldom, if ever, reviewed a book so well-researched, factually accurate and enlightening as this one. *A Woman's Place* is the long-awaited contribution to the annals of Australian women's history in the law ... Inspiration indeed for a new generation of Australian women lawyers.

—The Honourable Marilyn Warren, AC
Chief Justice of Victoria

The experiences of women in law have all too often been entombed in silence. *A Woman's Place* is a living history that sets out to remedy the omissions of the past by ensuring that women's voices are heard ... Multiple authors have presented us with a mosaic of the meaning of life in law for Queensland women over the past 100 years that is both inspirational and aspirational ... A distinctive element is the recognition of the role played by Indigenous women. I congratulate the editors of the collection and commend it to you.

—Margaret Thornton,
Richard McGarvie Chair in Socio-Legal Studies
La Trobe University

EDITED BY
SUSAN PURDON &
ALADIN RAHEMTULA



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- Edited by Susan Purdon and Aladin Rahemtula
- Foreword by The Honourable Mary Gaudron

Featuring 51 profiles of prominent Queensland women lawyers including:

- **Agnes McWhinney**—the first woman to be admitted as a solicitor in Queensland
- **Naida Haxton**—the first woman to practise at Queensland’s private Bar
- **Lenée Forde, AC**—the first female Governor of Queensland
- **Her Excellency Quentin Bryce, AC**—the first woman employed by the University of Queensland Law School
- **Jacqui Payne**—the first Indigenous Australian appointed to a judicial position in Queensland
- **The Hon Mrs Linda Lavarch**—the first female Attorney-General of Queensland

A Woman’s Place is a timely tribute to the achievements of women in the legal sphere since 1905, when women were first permitted to practise law in Queensland.

This vibrant publication features the profiles of 51 remarkable women, historical and contemporary commentary and previously unpublished statistics. In particular, the appendices consolidate, for the first time, a variety of data from diverse and inaccessible archives, which relates to the involvement of women in a variety of legal fields including the judiciary, academia and professional legal associations. The publication of these statistics will serve as a vital one stop resource for scholars and historians, whilst the personal reflections from some of Queensland’s most prominent women will inspire readers of all ages.

- Also featuring a glimpse into the future of the legal profession in 2025 as seen by 13 recent outstanding women law graduates.

Includes:

- Complete record of women admitted to the legal profession in Queensland (1905–2005)
- Statistics reflecting the presence of women lawyers in the judiciary, academia and professional associations over the past 100 years

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A Woman’s Place will be available from March 2006.

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