

Interview with Breanna Davies

What inspired you to pursue a career in law, and what attracted you to specialise in corporate law?

I undertook a combined Journalism and Law degree with the intention of becoming an award-winning journalist but somehow ended up as a commercial lawyer. Once I set upon a legal career, I wanted to be a litigator, but then found I was drawn to the inherently collaborative nature of corporate and commercial law. I like that the parties are all working to the same outcome which is getting a deal done. I genuinely like helping people to solve problems and closing a transaction.

What have been some of the defining moments or highlights of your career so far?

My number one career highlight was making Partner. It was such a tough slog having two small children and working long hours as a senior associate (this was in the days before work from home was an option and flexibility didn't exist like it does now). Getting to Partnership and having more autonomy over my day has been lifechanging. I've also enjoyed mentoring junior lawyers and watching them hit career goals. It's also incredibly rewarding to have old colleagues (and even old bosses) as my clients.

Has your experience as a woman in the legal profession shaped your approach to leadership, collaboration or client service?

I don't think so. I think my approach to leadership, collaboration and client service is driven more by my values and my high standards than by my gender.

What changes to the industry have you witnessed over the span of your career that have positively improved the space for female lawyers?

I think the sheer volume of women now practicing law has positively improved the space for female lawyers. Taking parental leave and returning to work is very common. Also, I think it helps that the dial is finally (slowly) shifting and balancing work and children, or work and caregiving, isn't just seen as the responsibility of mothers and women anymore.

Who are the female mentors who supported you throughout your career?

I have the most wonderful supportive group of female friends I met at university. We each carefully balance demanding careers and busy lives, and I appreciate their mentoring and support. At this stage of my life, I often turn to my husband and daughters who give me such sage advice and unwavering support.

What support/advice did they provide that made an impact?

Backing myself, demonstrating empathy and showing up even when it's tough.

What would you say to young female lawyers asking for career advice?

Build your network early. Remember you have a long career ahead. Learn early how to balance competing pressures. Don't be too hard on yourself.

Looking ahead, what continues to motivate and inspire you in your work?

Every day brings challenges and opportunities which means I can never be complacent. Learning new things and meeting new people will always interest me. I also like to demonstrate by my actions that working hard is important.



Breanna Davies
Partner

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Lawyer Elite Women 2026 report