# Search People Result

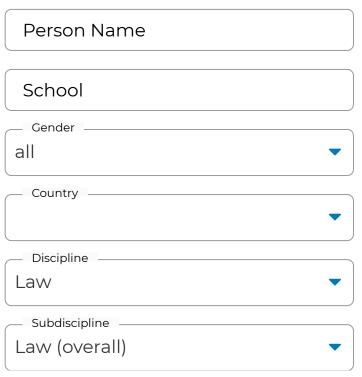
## Who are the most influential thinkers in world?

Identify leaders in your chosen discipline, research top professors in your area of study, and search for schools based on the luminaries who most inspire you!

Note: These rankings change dynamically as our artificial intelligence system learns new things and incorporates new publications and citations. Academics are constantly doing research and publishing new insights, with the result that our measure of influence is subject to continual adjustments. For quality assurance reasons, however, we forgo real-time changes, with most public updates happening only quarterly. In any case, don't be surprised to see our rankings change over time.

Methodology: How and Why We Rank by Influence ...

## Search Influential People







# List of the most influential people in Law, for the years 1990 – 2020



## Charles F. Abernathy

1946 - Present (75 years)

## #35528 Person's Overall Influence

Charles F. Abernathy is a professor at Georgetown University Law Center, rigorous adherent to the socratic method, and a graduate of Harvard College and of Harvard Law School.Books Abernathy, Charles F. Civil Rights: Cases and Materials. St. Paul, Minn.: West Pub. Co., 2012 Shulman, Stephen N., and Charles F. Abernathy. The law of equal employment opportunityAbernathy, Charles F. Law in the United States: Cases and Materials. Washington, D.C: International Law Institute, 1995.

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## Franklin Drilon

1945 - Present (76 years)

#5392 Person's Overall Influence

Franklin "Frank" Magtunao Drilon is a Filipino politician serving as the Senate Minority Leader since 2017. Since 2010, he has been on his second stint in the Senate, first serving from 1995 to 2007. He served thrice as President of the Senate: in 2000, from 2001 to 2006, and from 2013 to 2016. Having served as Senate Majority Leader and Senate President pro tempore in the past, he is the only senator who has served in all four major leadership positions of the Senate. A member of the Liberal Party since 2003, he has been the party's vice-chairman since 2011 and has previously served as the p...

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## Shirin Ebadi

1947 - Present (74 years)

#### #1668 Person's Overall Influence

Shirin Ebadi is an Iranian political activist, lawyer, a former judge and human rights activist and founder of Defenders of Human Rights Center in Iran. On 10 October 2003, Ebadi was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her significant and pioneering efforts for democracy and human rights, especially women's, children's, and refugee rights.

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## Rosa Brooks

1970 - Present (51 years)

#### #8075 Person's Overall Influence

Rosa Brooks is an American law professor, journalist, author and commentator on foreign policy, U.S. politics and criminal justice. She is the Scott K. Ginsburg Professor of Law and Policy at Georgetown University Law Center. Brooks is also an adjunct scholar at West Point's

Modern War Institute and a senior fellow at the New America Foundation. From April 2009 to July 2011, Brooks was a counselor to Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Michèle Flournoy.

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## Adrian Vermeule

1968 - Present (53 years)

#### #16402 Person's Overall Influence

Cornelius Adrian Comstock Vermeule is an American legal scholar. currently a law professor at Harvard Law School. He founded the book review magazine The New Rambler. Early life and education Vermeule was born May 2, 1968, into a family of prominent scholars. His mother, Emily Vermeule, a classical scholar, was the Doris Zemurray Stone Professor at Harvard University. His father, Cornelius Clarkson Vermeule III, served for many years as Curator of the Classical Department at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. His sister, Blakey Vermeule, is a literary scholar and a Professor of English at Stanford ...

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## **Justine Thornton**

1970 - Present (51 years)

## #23583 Person's Overall Influence

Dame Justine Thornton, styled The Hon Mrs Justice Thornton, is a British barrister and judge of the High Court of England and Wales. Thornton was appointed to the High Court of England and Wales in February 2019, assigned to the Queen's Bench Division. As a lawyer, she specialised in environmental law.



## Mari Matsuda

1956 - Present (65 years)

#### #16680 Person's Overall Influence

Mari J. Matsuda is an American lawyer, activist, and law professor at the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii. She was the first tenured female Asian American law professor in the United States, at University of California, Los Angeles School of Law in 1998 and one of the leading voices in critical race theory since its inception. Matsuda returned to Richardson in the fall of 2008. Prior to her return, Matsuda was a professor at the UCLA School of Law and Georgetown University Law Center, specializing in the fields of torts, constitutional law, legal history, f...

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## Reinhold Zippelius

1928 - Present (93 years)

#### #8899 Person's Overall Influence

Reinhold Zippelius is a German jurist and law scholar. Now retired, he was formerly the professor of the Philosophy of law and Public law at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg. Life and career Reinhold Walter Zippelius was born in Ansbach, the son of Hans Zippelius and Marie Zippelius. He embarked on his study of jurisprudence in 1947 at Würzburg and then at Erlangen. In 1949 he switched to the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich where between 1949 and 1961 he was supported by a scholarship-bursary. He received his doctorate in 1953. His habilitation, also from Munich, and supervis...



## **David Stras**

1974 - Present (47 years)

#### #38239 Person's Overall Influence

David Ryan Stras is a United States Circuit Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. He is a former Associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court. Early life and education Stras was born in 1974 in Wichita, Kansas. He received a Bachelor of Arts with highest honors and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Kansas where he became a member of Theta Chi fraternity. In 1999, he earned a Juris Doctor from the University of Kansas School of Law, where he served as editor-in-chief of the Criminal Procedure Edition of the Kansas Law Review.

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## Mohamed ElBaradei

1942 - Present (79 years)

## #4543 Person's Overall Influence

Mohamed Mustafa ElBaradei is an Egyptian law scholar and diplomat who served as Vice President of Egypt on an interim basis from 14 July 2013 until his resignation on 14 August 2013. He was the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, an intergovernmental organization under the auspices of the United Nations, from 1997 to 2009. He and the IAEA were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005. ElBaradei was also featured in the Western press regarding recent politics in Egypt, particularly the 2011 revolution which ousted President Hosni Mubarak and the 2013 Egyptian coup ...



## Steven M. Wise

1952 - Present (69 years)

#### #9351 Person's Overall Influence

Steven M. Wise is an American legal scholar who specializes in animal protection issues, primatology, and animal intelligence. He teaches animal rights law at Harvard Law School, Vermont Law School, John Marshall Law School, , and Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine. He is a former president of the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and founder and president of the Nonhuman Rights Project. The Yale Law Journal has called him "one of the pistons of the animal rights movement."

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## Eric Posner

1965 - Present (56 years)

#### #15674 Person's Overall Influence

Eric Posner is a professor of law at the University of Chicago's Law School. He earned his B.A. and M.A. in philosophy from Yale University and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. His interests have included game theory, international law, foreign relations law, cost-benefit analysis, and national security privacy issues.





## Stephan Kinsella

1965 - Present (56 years)

## #3768 Person's Overall Influence

Norman Stephan Kinsella is an American intellectual property lawyer, author, and deontological anarcho-capitalist. His legal works have been published by Oxford University Press, Oceana Publications, Mises Institute, Quid Pro Books and others.

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## Tommy Koh

1937 - Present (84 years)

#### #8305 Person's Overall Influence

Tommy Koh Thong Bee is a Singaporean international lawyer, professor, diplomat, and author. He was also Singapore's former Permanent Representative to the United Nations. Early life and education Koh was born in Singapore on 12 November 1937. His father was from Tong'an, Fujian and his mother was from Shanghai. He graduated from Raffles Institution and Serangoon Secondary School and received a LL.B. degree from the University of Malaya in Singapore. He holds a LL.M. from Harvard University and a post-graduate Diploma in Criminology from Cambridge University. He was conferred a full profess

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## Mahendra Pal Singh

1940 - Present (81 years)

#13139 Person's Overall Influence

Mahendra Pal Singh, is a jurist and a scholar of constitutional lawOP Jindal Global University. He is best known amongst students of Constitution of India as the author of V.N. Shukla's Constitution of India a standard textbook for lawyers on Constitution of India. Internationally however, he is more famous amongst scholars of comparative law for his work, German Administrative Law in Common Law Perspective.

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## Dalveer Bhandari

1947 - Present (74 years)

#### #12858 Person's Overall Influence

Dalveer Bhandari is an Indian member of the International Court of Justice. He is a former Judge of Supreme Court of India. He is also the former Chief Justice of Bombay High Court and a Judge of Delhi High Court.

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## Gillian Triggs

1945 - Present (76 years)

#### #12320 Person's Overall Influence

Gillian Doreen Triggs is an Australian academic specialising in public international law. In 2019, she was appointed by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres as Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations. In this capacity, she will serve as the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection in the team of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi.



## Abbe Smith

1956 - Present (65 years)

#### #26837 Person's Overall Influence

Abbe Lyn Smith is an American criminal defense attorney and professor of law at Georgetown University Law Center. Smith is Director of the Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic and Co-Director of the E. Barrett Prettyman Fellowship Program.

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## Goodwin Liu

1970 - Present (51 years)

## #20278 Person's Overall Influence

Goodwin Hon Liu is an American lawyer, educator and an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of California. Before his appointment by California Governor Jerry Brown, Liu was Associate Dean and Professor of Law at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. Liu has been recognized for his writing on constitutional law, education policy, civil rights, and the Supreme Court.

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## Christopher Greenwood

1955 - Present (66 years)

#26336 Person's Overall Influence

Sir Christopher John Greenwood is Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge and a former British judge at the International Court of Justice. Prior to his election, he was professor of international law at the London School of Economics and a barrister who regularly appeared as counsel before the International Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights, the English courts, and other tribunals.

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## Vikram Amar

1963 - Present (58 years)

#### #18657 Person's Overall Influence

Vikram David Amar is an American legal scholar focusing on constitutional law, federal courts, and civil and criminal procedure. In August 2015, he became dean of the University of Illinois College of Law and the Iwan Foundation Professor of Law. He was the first Americanborn person of Indian descent to serve as a dean of a major American law school.

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## Douglas Laycock

1948 - Present (73 years)

## #19695 Person's Overall Influence

Douglas Laycock is Robert E. Scott Distinguished Professor at the University of Virginia School of Law, and a leading scholar in the areas of religious liberty and the law of remedies. He also currently serves as the 2nd Vice President of the American Law Institute and is an elected Fellow of the.

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## Christopher L. Eisgruber

1961 - Present (60 years)

#### #12759 Person's Overall Influence

Christopher Ludwig Eisgruber is an American legal scholar who is serving as the 20th and current President of Princeton University, where he is also the Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor of Public Affairs in the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs and the University Center for Human Values. He is also an expert on constitutional law, with an emphasis on and federal judicial appointments.

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## Albie Sachs

1935 - Present (86 years)

#### #9662 Person's Overall Influence

Albert "Albie" Louis Sachs is an activist and a former judge on the Constitutional Court of South Africa. After having his arm blown off by a car-bomb in Mozambique due to his opposition to apartheid, he fled to the United States but later returned to South Africa and currently resides in Cape Town.



#### #5989 Person's Overall Influence

Oluyemi Oluleke "Yemi" Osinbajo, is a Nigerian lawyer and politician who is currently serving as the Vice President of Nigeria, since 29th May, 2015. Family Yemi Osinbajo was born into the family of Opeoluwa Osinbajo on 8 March 1957, Creek Hospital, Lagos. Osinbajo is married to Dolapo Osinbajo, a granddaughter of Obafemi Awolowo. They have three children - two daughters, Damilola, Kanyinsola and a son, Fiyinfoluwa Osinbajo.

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## John F. Duffy

1963 - Present (58 years)

#### #39691 Person's Overall Influence

John Fitzgerald Duffy is Professor of Law at University of Virginia School of Law in Charlottesville, Virginia. He is a Legal Commentator and Author who has written numerous articles and co-authored a scholarly book on Patent Law . He previously served as law clerk to Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Stephen F. Williams, Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Between these two assignments, he served as an attorney at the Office of Legal Counsel in the United States Department of Justice. In additi...

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## Preet Bharara

1968 - Present (53 years)

#5703 Person's Overall Influence

Preetinder Singh Bharara is a Distinguished Scholar in Residence for New York University's School of Law. He graduated from Harvard University with his A.B. and earned his J.D. from Columbia University. He is the former United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, a role in which he earned a reputation as among the most relentless and effective prosecutors of corruption and white-collar crime.

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## Stephen F. Williams

1936 - 2020 (84 years)

#### #21083 Person's Overall Influence

Stephen Fain Williams was a United States Circuit Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Early life and career Born in New York City, he was the son of prominent lawyer C. Dickerman Williams. He received a Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude in 1958 from Yale University, where he was a member of the Manuscript Society. He then received a Juris Doctor magna cum laude in 1961 from Harvard Law School. He was in the United States Army Reserve as a Private E-2 from 1961 to 1962. He engaged in private practice from 1962 to 1966 and became an Assistant United S.

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## Sarah Cleveland

#18348 Person's Overall Influence

Sarah Hull Cleveland is an American law professor and noted expert in international law and the constitutional law of U.S. foreign relations, with particular interests in the status of international law in U.S.

domestic law, international and comparative human rights law, international humanitarian law, and national security.

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## Paul Mahoney

1959 - Present (62 years)

## #20651 Person's Overall Influence

Paul G. Mahoney is an American law professor. He was Dean of the University of Virginia School of Law from July 1, 2008 to July 1, 2016. He succeeded John Calvin Jeffries as Dean, and was succeeded by Risa L. Goluboff.

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## Maria Lourdes Sereno

1960 - Present (61 years)

#### #11041 Person's Overall Influence

Maria Lourdes "Meilou" Aranal Sereno is a Filipina lawyer and judge who served as de facto Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines from 2012 until her removal in 2018. Appointed as Associate Justice by President Benigno Aguino III in August 2010, she became the second youngest person to assume the post of Chief Justice in August 2012. She is considered to be the first woman head of a judicial branch in any Southeast Asian sovereign state.





## **Edwin Cameron**

1953 - Present (68 years)

#### #12194 Person's Overall Influence

Edwin Cameron is a retired judge who served as a Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa. He is well known for his HIV/AIDS and gay-rights activism and was hailed by Nelson Mandela as "one of South Africa's new heroes". President Ramaphosa appointed him as Inspecting Judge of Correctional Services from 1 January 2020 and in October 2019 he was elected Chancellor of Stellenbosch University.

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## Robert Ellickson

1941 - Present (80 years)

#### #19160 Person's Overall Influence

Robert C. Ellickson is an American property law scholar. He is the Walter E. Meyer Professor of Property and Urban Law at Yale Law School, and was formerly on the faculty at the USC Gould School of Law and Stanford Law School. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a past president of the American Law and Economics Association. Ellickson is the author of numerous books and articles on land use, property, and social norms, and is best known for his 1991 book Order Without Law: How Neighbors Settle Disputes. In that book, a study of ranchers and farmers in Shasta County

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## Laura Wasser

1968 - Present (53 years)

#### #34513 Person's Overall Influence

Laura Allison Wasser is an American attorney specializing in divorce and well-known for her celebrity clients. Early life and education Laura Allison Wasser was born in Los Angeles on May 23, 1968. Her father is prominent divorce attorney Dennis Wasser, and her mother was attorney Bunny Wasser. Wasser graduated from Beverly Hills High School in 1986. She has a B.A. degree in Rhetoric from University of California, Berkeley, and she earned a J.D. degree from Loyola Law School in 1994. She has been a member of the California Bar since December 1994.

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F. Lee Bailey

1933 - 2021 (88 years)

## #3289 Person's Overall Influence

Francis Lee Bailey Jr. is a former American criminal defense attorney best known for representing - and helping to acquit - physician Sam Sheppard and former football player O.J. Simpson, both of whom allegedly murdered their spouses.





## Anne-France Goldwater

1960 - Present (61 years)

#### #44310 Person's Overall Influence

Anne-France Goldwater is a Canadian lawyer and television personality, best known as the arbitrator on L'Arbitre, a court show which debuted on the V television network in 2011. Goldwater was born in Montreal, Quebec, the daughter of lawyers Sam Goldwater and Ruth Zendel. She

studied law at McGill University before being admitted to the Bar of Quebec.

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## Gerhard Casper

1937 - Present (84 years)

## #7622 Person's Overall Influence

Gerhard Casper is a former president of Stanford University from 1992 to 2000, a former Dean of the University of Chicago Law School from 1979 to 1987, and a former provost of the University of Chicago from 1989 to 1992. Casper was president of the American Academy in Berlin from July 2015 through July 2016; from August 2019 to January 24, 2020, he served as the institution's trustee-in-residence.

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## Abdulqawi Yusuf

1948 - Present (73 years)

#### #20452 Person's Overall Influence

Abdulgawi Ahmed Yusuf is a Somali lawyer and judge serving on the International Court of Justice since 2009. He served as the court's president from 2018 to 2021. Early life Yusuf was born in the northeastern town of Eyl, Puntland. He holds a Juris Doctor and holds a PhD in international law from the Graduate Institute of International Studies of Geneva. Prior to his doctorate, Yusuf completed post-graduate studies in international law at the University of Florence in Italy.



Ben Saul is the current Challis Professor of International Law at the University of Sydney and an Australian Research Council Future Fellow. He has appeared as an advocate in international, regional and national courts outside Australia, and he is also admitted to practice as a barrister in New South Wales. His research interests include international law, in particular, international aspects of anti-terrorism law, humanitarian law, human rights law, among others.

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## Sandy Berger

1945 - 2015 (70 years)

#### #7355 Person's Overall Influence

Samuel Richard "Sandy" Berger was a political consultant who served as the 19th United States National Security Advisor for President Bill Clinton from 1997 to 2001. Before that he served as the Deputy National Security Advisor for the Clinton Administration from 1993 to 1997.

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## Christopher Darden

1956 - Present (65 years)

## #18549 Person's Overall Influence

Christopher Allen Darden is an American lawyer, author, actor, and lecturer. He worked 15 years in the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office, where he gained national attention as a co-prosecutor in the O. J. Simpson murder case.



## Jonathan R. Macey

1955 - Present (66 years)

#### #18240 Person's Overall Influence

Jonathan R. Macey is the Sam Harris Professor of Corporate Law, Corporate Finance and Securities Law at Yale Law School. Biography Macey earned his B.A. from Harvard University in 1977, and his J.D. from Yale Law School in 1982, where he was article and book review editor of the Yale Law Journal. In 1996, Macey received a Ph.D. honoris causa from the Stockholm School of Economics.

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## Viet D. Dinh

1968 - Present (53 years)

## #12134 Person's Overall Influence

Viet D. Dinh is a lawyer and a legal scholar who is Chief Legal and Policy Officer of Fox Corporation and who served as an Assistant Attorney General of the United States from 2001 to 2003, under the presidency of George W. Bush. Born in Saigon, in former South Vietnam, he was the chief architect of the USA PATRIOT Act and is a former member of the Board of Directors of News Corporation.

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## Francis Gurry

1951 - Present (70 years)



Francis Gurry is an Australian national, who was from 2008 to 2020 the fourth Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization. During that time, he was also Secretary-General of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. Gurry also served as a Deputy Director General of WIPO from 2003 to 2008.

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## Scott Pruitt

1968 - Present (53 years)

#### #7088 Person's Overall Influence

Edward Scott Pruitt is an American lawyer, lobbyist and Republican politician from the state of Oklahoma. He served as the fourteenth Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from February 17, 2017, to July 9, 2018. He was nominated for the EPA position by President Donald Trump and was confirmed by the United States Senate to lead the EPA in a 52–46 vote. Pruitt rejects the scientific consensus on climate change.

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## Rosalie Abella

1946 - Present (75 years)

#### #14948 Person's Overall Influence

Rosalie Silberman Abella is a Canadian jurist. In 2004, Abella was appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada, becoming the first Jewish woman and refugee to sit on the Canadian Supreme Court bench. Early

life and education Rosalie Silberman Abella was born on July 1, 1946, the daughter of Jacob and Fanny Silberman. She was born in a displaced persons camp in Stuttgart, Germany to Jacob and Fanny Silberman. Her father was born in Sienno, Poland in 1910, while her mother was born in Ostrowiec in 1917. Abella's older sister was murdered in the Holocaust. Her parents both survived, Jacob Silberma

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## Harry Blackmun

1908 - 1999 (91 years)

#### #2335 Person's Overall Influence

Harry Andrew Blackmun was an American lawyer and jurist who served as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1970 until 1994. Appointed by Republican President Richard Nixon, Blackmun ultimately became one of the most liberal justices on the Court. He is best known as the author of the Court's opinion in Roe v. Wade, which prohibits many state and federal restrictions on abortion.

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## Lani Guinier

1950 - Present (71 years)

## #11531 Person's Overall Influence

Lani Guinier is an American civil rights theorist. She is the Bennett Boskey Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, and the first woman of color appointed to a tenured professorship there. Guinier was a Professor of Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School for ten years, before joining Harvard Law School in 1998. Guinier's work includes professional responsibilities of public lawyers, the relationship between

democracy and the law, the role of race and gender in the political process, college admissions, and affirmative action.

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## Philippe Kirsch

1947 - Present (74 years)

## #38595 Person's Overall Influence

Philippe Kirsch, is a Canadian lawyer who served as a judge of the International Criminal Court from 2003 to 2009 and was the Court's first president. Biography Kirsch was born in Belgium in 1947 and arrived in Canada in 1961. Kirsch holds a Bachelor of Civil Law and an LL.M. degree from the Université de Montréal.

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## Barry Scheck

1949 - Present (72 years)

#### #10998 Person's Overall Influence

Barry Charles Scheck is an American lawyer. He received national media attention while serving on O.J. Simpson's defense team, collectively dubbed the "Dream Team", helping to win an acquittal in the highly publicized murder case. Scheck is the director of the Innocence Project and a professor at Yeshiva University's Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York City.



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