

Faculti Summary

<https://faculti.net/traditions-symbols-and-the-challenges-of-researching-the-legal-profession/>

This video discusses the author's experience with the legal profession, particularly in relation to the cab rank rule, which mandates that barristers must accept any case in their field, barring certain exceptions. The author became involved with the Legal Services Board to conduct research on the care plan form, realizing there was little existing literature on the subject. Through interviews with barristers, he explored the complexities of the cab rank rule, which initially aimed to ensure all clients have access to legal representation but has since evolved.

The tradition, perceived moral superiority, and challenges faced by barristers in adhering to the cab rank rule are examined, revealing its limitations, especially for clients needing legal aid. The author criticizes the bar's exemptions from this obligation in less lucrative cases, suggesting that this undermines the very purpose of the rule.

The narrative also delves into the difficulties of conducting legal research, especially when findings challenge established practices or beliefs. The research faced backlash from the legal community, which often deflected attention from substantive critiques by attacking the author's credibility. Despite this, the author maintained commitment to transparency in research and emphasized the vital importance of ensuring access to justice. This video ultimately highlights the need for ongoing legal research to address unmet legal needs and assess the efficacy of legal structures.