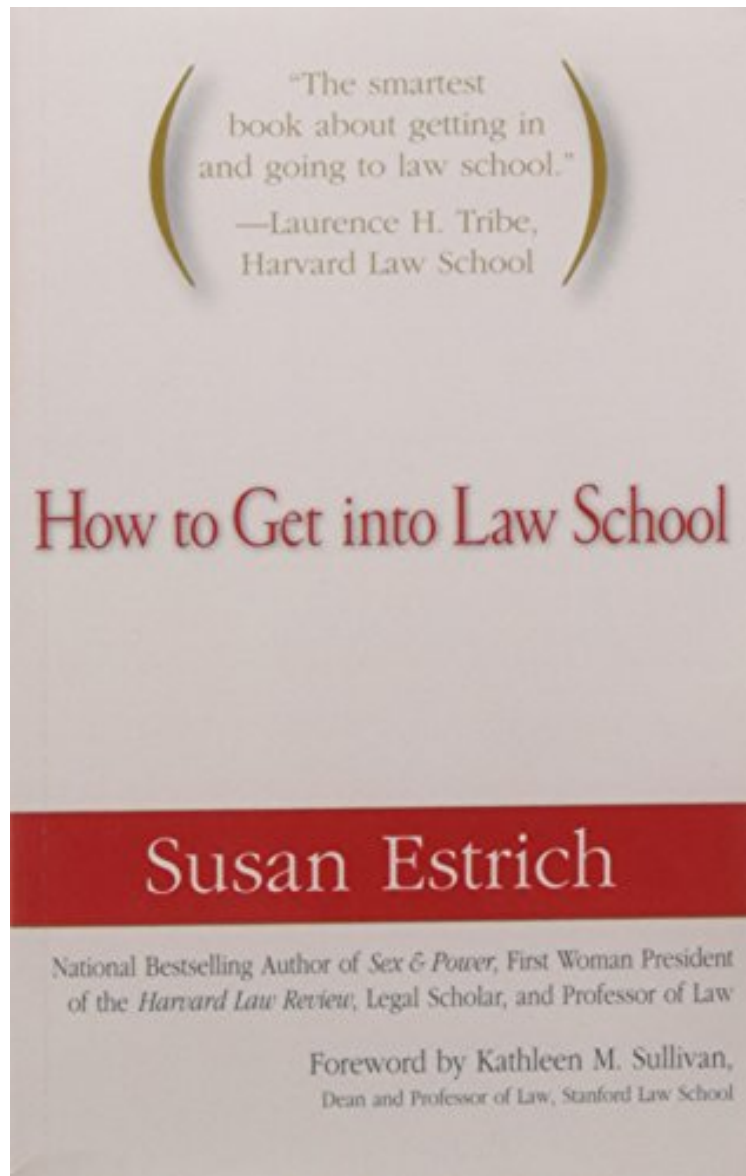


## How to Get Into Law School

*Susan Estrich*

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**Susan Estrich : How to Get Into Law School** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How to Get Into Law School:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Mediocre BookBy DSeveranceThis book is mediocre and I can only recommend it for the person finds he or she must read every book on a subject. I preferred Anna Ivey's book The Ivey Guide to Law School Admissions: Straight Advice on Essays, Resumes, Interviews, and More as I found her much

more down to earth and helpful. 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Better than most Law Admission Books, but far from perfect

By AKLI am a law school admission consultant. When I was acting as director of Admissions at California Western School of Law, I attended a conference of law school admission professionals in Phoenix. Professor Estrich spoke at this convention and she mentions that speech in the book as her "introduction" to law school admission issues. I admire the author considerably and, as a result, read this book. (I previously read "The Case for Hillary Clinton") There's a common theme in both; Prof. Estrich likes to mention all the fabulously brilliant and famous people who are among her best friends. Most of the book is name-dropping. She quotes other people (the same people that write the book jacket comments in some cases) and while this makes for an entertaining read and provides some "wow" factor, it's not all that informative for the person looking for advice about law school applications. While I think the author is right on the mark about looking outside the rankings and picking geography over U.S. News, her actual admission experience seems limited to writing a few letters of rec for her friends' children. (A practice that makes me grimace - for reasons you can read about on my blog at [...]) The first half of this book is about getting into law school and the 2nd half is about what to do once you're there. I didn't read the second half of the book. I'd rather law school applicants take advice from Prof. Estrich than from the commercial books out there by big companies and people without a lot of credibility. But this isn't a fantastic book if you're looking for advice about applying. (Anna Ivey's book is better - just don't read the sample personal statements she includes). Prof. Estrich's book might be worth reading if you're trying to decide where to attend law school because her points in this regard are noteworthy. I always caution applicants against "one size fits all" law school application advice. As the proprietor of [...] I have helped more than 500 law school applicants reach their dreams in the last 3 years and my full time job is helping people apply to law school. I do recommend this book on my blog, mostly for the rankings analysis.

6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. 3 stars, only because it was entertaining enough to finish

By Mark Twain Whether this book will actually help you get into the law school of your choice is debatable. First of all, the advice is geared towards students who REALLY want to get into a school that seems to be JUST out of reach for them: it instructs you to stalk the dean of admissions, make phone calls and send follow-ups. This might give you an edge to get in somewhere that your numbers may not ordinarily merit, but in my case, these "tips" simply were not pertinent at all. Part of what kept me reading was the author's informal language and tone. At first, it seemed like frank advice from a no-nonsense woman. By the end, I was completely put off. Susan Estrich comes across as a complete snob who uses lots of words and drops a lot of names without saying anything. There is no compassion or genuine interest in her audience. It seemed to me like this woman just enjoys hearing herself talk about her powerful friends and berating her readers. I found it especially irritating that she included a chapter on how miserable lawyers are; how the suicide rate among lawyers is SO high; and how any lawyer would never want his children to follow in his footsteps. Considering this is a book for men and women who either want to go to law school or are already there, it was an awkward choice for Estrich to make. There were a few good points. I did enjoy reading the author's take on the current system of law school rankings. She also gave some inspiring tips on what makes a good personal statement. The section specifically for female lawyers was interesting, and the book has a feminist slant to it overall. I read this book in the course of an afternoon. Consider it an entertaining beach read this summer for all you kids applying to law school in the fall.

Whether you're a college junior facing the LSATs, a senior sitting with disappointing test scores, or someone who has always dreamed of a career in the law, there is too much at stake not to ask the hard questions about what lies ahead. In *How to Get Into Law School*, Susan Estrich lends her unique point of view and far-ranging experience - as a law student, tenured professor, renowned legal scholar and analyst - to the life and career questions applicants will face, and answers them in the frank, no-nonsense manner that is her trademark. Featuring anecdotes from admissions directors, professors, veteran attorneys, and adventurous students alike, this is your indispensable how-to guide.

"The smartest book about getting in and going to law school." - Laurence H. Tribe, Harvard Law School  
"Brilliant." - Christopher F. Edley, Dean, Boalt Hall Law School  
"If anyone can remind you why you once loved the law, and still might, Susan Estrich will." - Kathleen M. Sullivan, Dean and Professor of Law, Stanford Law School

About the Author  
The first woman president of the Harvard Law Review, the first woman to run a presidential campaign, Susan Estrich is the Robert Kingsley Professor of Law and Political Science at the University of Southern California, a nationally syndicated columnist, a contributor to USA Today and the Los Angeles Times, a legal and political analyst who appears frequently on national television, and the author of four books.