



Matthew Stephens

A Woman's Right to Choose Post *Hobby Lobby*

By Becky Zipp

Even though *Roe v. Wade* is on the cusp of its 42nd birthday, certain factions continue to chip away at the reproductive freedoms that many of us take for granted. (See, e.g. *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby* (2014) 134 S. Ct. 2754.) *Hobby Lobby* doesn't even address abortion; it concerns the contraceptive mandate clause of the Affordable Care Act. Nonetheless, affordable access to *contraception* remains incredibly controversial. We've come a long way, baby?

Born into a post-*Roe* world, Generation Y and Millennials may take our reproductive freedoms for granted. In most colleges, condoms were as ubiquitous as syllabi. Everything we know about back-alley abortion, we knew from *Dirty Dancing*. We've supplemented our undergraduate education with *Revolutionary Road*.

In recent years, anti-choice activists have sought to accomplish just that: a revival of the pre-*Roe* world. For years, anti-choice groups have strategically utilized the courts, as well as state-level legislation, to chip away at the rights guaranteed by *Roe v. Wade* and its progeny.

Since 2010, when abortion opponents succeeded in winning many national and local elections, state-level abortion restrictions have mushroomed. 2014 has been a particularly sobering year for reproductive justice proponents.

In Alabama, a minor who seeks an abortion without her parents' consent has to undergo a court trial. For that trial, the state can appoint an attorney for the fetus. (www.economist.com/blogs/democracyinamerica/2014/10/abortion-america) As this issue goes to press, Colorado and North Dakota have so-called "personhood" measures on their state ballots. Such measures extend rights and protections to unborn fetuses. (http://www.nytimes.com/2014/10/25/us/abortion-capital-of-bible-belt-tennessee-vote-tests-that-idea.html?_r=0) And Tennessee's anti-choice contingency is attempting to amend their state's Constitution with Amendment 1, which affirmatively states that the Constitution neither "secures [n]or protects" a right to abortion. (See NYTimes Article, above.)

Matthew Stephens will address the political climate fomenting the abortion restrictions trend as well as the *Hobby Lobby* decision at the January 15 Lawyers Club monthly luncheon. Stephens, a

practicing attorney, UCSD Lecturer, and highly decorated civil rights advocate at Progressive Law Group, handles general business litigation, employment law, intellectual property and real property disputes in addition to civil rights cases.

With his singular professional qualifications, Stephens will frame the issue of reproductive justice, and all that it encompasses, in a way that is guaranteed to ignite passions, spark discussion, and inspire the post-*Roe* generation to protect the freedoms for which our mothers and our grandmothers fought.

The luncheon will also feature a brief legislative update examining national trends relating to reproductive rights. Please register for this luncheon, and bring your listening ears. Your engagement with this very fundamental issue will help to ensure that the upcoming *Roe v. Wade* anniversary celebration is not the last.



Becky Zipp is a Deputy District Attorney, co-chair of the Reproductive Rights and Women's Advocacy Committee and the Vice Chair of the Coalition for Reproductive Choice.

What? When? Where?

What: Lawyers Club Monthly Luncheon

When: Thursday, January 15, 2015; 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Where: The U.S. Grant, 326 Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101

Cost: Members, \$30; Non-members, \$45; Students, \$45; (at the door subject to availability)

RSVP: www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.

What's Inside

Upcoming Events:

Don't miss lunch with Martha Wyrsh of Sempra Energy on January 20. See page 3 for all the details.

Past events:

Lawyers Club's Equality Survey results presented at inspirational November Luncheon. See page 7.

Of Note:

Lawyers Club members to lead County Bar in 2015 and 2016. See page 6 for all the details.

Volunteer at The Women's Resource Fair on February 28. Details on page 12.



**LAWYERS CLUB
of San Diego**

ADVANCING THE STATUS OF WOMEN
IN THE LAW AND SOCIETY SINCE 1972

*Member Profile***Danielle Humphries: Making Meaningful Connections**

By Lauren T. Ogata

For Danielle Humphries, a career in estate planning was written in the stars. Humphries' father was an estate planning attorney in Southern California, and from the young age of five, Humphries worked alongside her father doing the paper shredding before there were electric shredders. In that capacity, Humphries, the oldest of seven children, gained invaluable insight into the legal profession and the value of the billable hour.



While attending college at Southern Methodist University, Humphries worked for an estate planning attorney. During this time, Humphries' interest in estate planning continued to manifest itself, ultimately leading her to apply to law schools with the sole purpose of becoming an estate planning attorney.

Humphries attended the University of San Diego School of Law, where she received her J.D. and an LLM in Tax. Upon graduating, Humphries moved back to Texas to officially start her career in estate planning. When Humphries decided to start a family of her own, she moved back to Southern California where continued to work in estate planning at Miller Monson.

After six years, Humphries made the move to Marks, Finch, Thornton & Baird LLP where she set up an estate planning department and became the first and only female equity partner. After growing the department at Marks, Finch, Thornton & Baird LLP, Humphries sought a robust trusts and estates platform within which she could grow

her practice. Thus, Humphries recently made another move, this time to Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP.

Like many other women in the San Diego legal community, Humphries is not only a respected and accomplished professional, she is a mother. When she became a mother, Humphries started to attend Lawyers Club events, "looking for resources and mentoring on how to navigate being a lawyer and a mom at the same time." In the past nine years, not only has Humphries found those resources, she has contributed to the advancement of moms in the San Diego legal community through her role as president of Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association, MAMAS for short.

One of the main goals of MAMAS is to create a supportive environment where attorney mothers can network with their children. "When we spend so much time away from our kids, it's nice to be able to share what we do in a meaningful and fun way for them," Humphries explained. Once a year, on the day before Mother's Day,

MAMAS of San Diego hosts a tea where moms bring their children. There are lots of activities, including characters for the children and a speaker.

MAMAS has co-hosted several events with Lawyers Club, including a picnic this past summer at the Women's Museum in Point Loma. Both organizations "provide valuable resources to San Diego women attorneys," Humphries says. "They allow us to connect over common interests. As a woman working in this industry, it is important to surround yourself with others who are similarly situated, and with resources that connect you with people. It is hard to connect in as meaningful a way with people who are not as similarly situated." It is that opportunity to connect with like-minded women that motivates Humphries' continued involvement in Lawyers Club and MAMAS.

Lauren T. Ogata is a Deputy District Attorney for the San Diego County District Attorney's Office

Abridged Proust Questionnaire.

What is your idea of perfect happiness? I am still trying to figure this out and likely will be the rest of my life. I think a good start to being perfectly happy, however, would be feeling well-rested every day.

What is your greatest fear? Losing my daughter.

What is your greatest extravagance? Prada!

What do you consider the most overrated virtue? Loyalty. Unconditional loyalty too frequently obscures independent moral thought and judgment.

Which words or phrases do you most overuse? "Right," "like," "do you know what I mean?"

What is your greatest regret? Not going abroad to study in college.

When and where were you happiest? True happiness began when I became a mom. There have been so many happy moments since that I couldn't possibly pick one.

What talent would you most like to have? Musical talent.

What is your current state of mind? The usual – wondering how I will accomplish everything I need to accomplish today.

What is your greatest achievement? My daughter.

What is your most treasured possession? My photos of family and friends, and a rustic candelabra my sister gave me.

Where would you most like to live? In San Diego – just closer to the beach.

What is your most appreciated trait in friends? Honesty and self-awareness.

What is your idea of misery? Total despair.

For what fault have you the most toleration? Perfectionism.