

March 4, 2019

## Judging Former Colleagues: A Collection of Justice Woolley's ABlawg Posts

By: Admin

Our former colleague Alice Woolley is being formally sworn in as a Justice of the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench today. We take this opportunity to highlight Justice Woolley's contributions to ABlawg over the ten years that she was a contributor, while we still called her "Alice".

Alice wrote a clean 100 posts for ABlawg between December 2007 and July 2018. Actually, while the number may be clean, the titles were as colourful as Alice's language, as we noted in our first brief farewell to her in ABlawg's [2018 year in review post](#), including [Regulating Lawyer-Client Sex](#), [Law Schools' Dirty Little Secret](#), and [Defending Rapists](#), to name a few. This is a good time to mention that we are not really judging her, either for leaving us and becoming a judge, or for her posts themselves. We were simply trying to come up with a Woolley-esque title.

Many of Alice's posts had over 2000 hits on ABlawg – she had a very impressive number of readers. Her most viewed posts were: [When Judicial Decisions Go from Wrong to Wrongful – How Should the Legal System Respond?](#) (over 5300 hits); [What has Meads v Meads wrought?](#) (cowritten with Jonnette Watson Hamilton, with over 3400 hits); and [The Incarcerated Complainant: Submissions to the Minister of Justice](#) (also with over 3400 hits). The Woolley posts that received the most comments were [What has Meads v Meads wrought?](#); [What Ought Crown Counsel to do in Prosecuting Sexual Assault Charges? Some Post-Ghomeshi Reflections](#); and [Defending Rapists](#).

Alice's large readership was no doubt sparked by the controversy of the topics she blogged on, as well as her clearly articulated positions on the issues they raised. In addition to the posts noted above on sexual assault, vexatious litigants, and legal education (see also her posts on Trinity Western Law School [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)), she blogged on lawyers' and judges' ethics in a range of areas (see e.g. Top Ten Legal Ethics posts [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)), the regulation of the legal profession (see e.g. [Ontario's Law Society: Orwell's Big Brother or Fuller's Rex?](#) and [A National Code of Conduct?](#)) and administrative law more generally (see e.g. her posts on the legacy of *Dunsmuir* [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). And then there was the [Volkswagen Scandal](#).

Alice also blogged in a regular [column for Slaw](#), which ABlawg regularly cross-posted to reach an even broader range of readers (for Amy Salyzyn's Slaw post on Alice's contributions, see [here](#)).

We will greatly miss Alice's ABlawg posts, especially at times like this when the issues of the day call for out analyses of questions like – in relation to Michael Cohen – [Is a Bad Lawyer a Bad Person?](#) and – in relation to Jody Wilson Raybould – whether [Prosecutors \[are\] Ministers of](#)

[Justice?](#) (although Alice had a different spin on that issue). We are looking forward to blogging on Justice Woolley’s decisions, and wish her all the best on this special day.

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