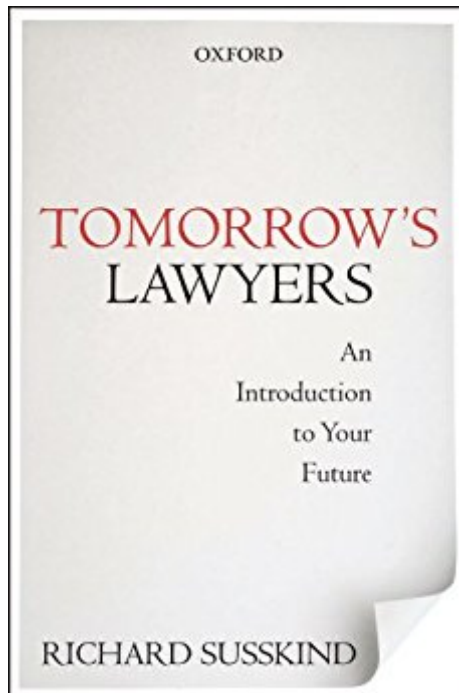




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Tomorrow's Lawyers: An Introduction To Your Future



Synopsis

Tomorrow's Lawyers predicts fundamental and irreversible changes in the world of law. For Richard Susskind, best-selling author of *The End of Lawyers?*, the future of legal service will be neither Grisham nor Rumpole. Instead, it will be a world of virtual courts, Internet-based global legal businesses, online document production, commoditized service, legal process outsourcing, and web-based simulated practice. Legal markets will be liberalized, with new jobs for lawyers and new employers too. This book is a definitive guide to this future - for young and aspiring lawyers, and for all who want to modernize our legal and justice systems. It introduces the new legal landscape and offers practical guidance for those who intend to build careers and businesses in law. Tomorrow's Lawyers is divided into three parts. The first is an updated restatement of Richard Susskind's views on the future of legal services, as laid out in his previous bestselling works, *The Future of Law*, *Transforming the Law*, and *The End of Lawyers?*. He identifies the key drivers of change, such as the economic downturn, and considers how these will impact on the legal marketplace. In the second part, Susskind sketches out the new legal landscape as he predicts it, including the changing role of law firms, and in-house lawyers, and the coming of virtual hearings and online dispute resolution. The third part focuses on the prospects for aspiring lawyers, predicting what new jobs and new employers there will be, and equipping prospective lawyers with penetrating questions to put to their current and future employers. This is the essential introduction to the future of law for those who want to succeed in the rapidly changing legal landscape.

Book Information

File Size: 520 KB

Print Length: 198 pages

Publisher: OUP Oxford; 1 edition (January 10, 2013)

Publication Date: January 10, 2013

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00AYZ9AS4

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #74,924 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #1 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Law > One-L > Legal Profession #10 in Books > Law > Legal Education > Legal Profession #14382 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction

Customer Reviews

Tomorrow's legal world bears little resemblance to that of the past, according to Richard Susskind in this book. The next two decades will bring more changes to legal institutions and lawyers than have the last two centuries. While traditional job opportunities for young lawyers are diminishing, a whole range of exciting new legal occupations will soon be created. First, the bad news. The changes in the legal profession coinciding with the global recession are here to stay. Even if and when the global economy recovers, the three main drivers of change will not be going away:*

- * The "more for less" challenge, in which companies have been putting pressure on their general counsel to cut legal budgets by 30 to 50 percent*
- * Liberalisation, which is allowing people who are not qualified as lawyers to provide particular types of legal services*
- * Information technology, which is becoming increasingly sophisticated so that computers can perform tasks that previously required skilled lawyers

To cope with the "more for less" challenge, law firms have tried charging less and alternative fee arrangements, but these efforts fail to achieve the cost reductions demanded by clients. The only two viable strategies, according to the author, are the efficiency strategy (which finds ways of cutting the costs of legal service) and the collaboration strategy (which involves clients sharing the costs of particular legal services). These strategies will require the breaking down of legal services into standard parts and custom parts, with the standard parts being commoditised and outsourced, in-sourced or computerised.

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