

Sample of Plain Interview

Q: So let's start in the pre-law school period, tell me how you decided you were going to be a lawyer and how you chose a law school.

A: I'd heard actually stories from my parents, who said that since I was young I said I wanted to be a lawyer, probably because I ruled out other things, like I don't like the sight of blood, or needles or anything like that and they said that I was very argumentative as a child. So I knew that I wanted to go to law school probably from, at least consciously high school and college, but by the time I got to college, I was kind of tired and I didn't want to go straight through to law school, it just didn't seem like something I wanted to do. I'd done internships over the summer, worked over the summer and during school and one of my friends actually was working at Teach for America here in New York, and I had visited her while I was there and it sounded really interesting so while I was taking—I don't remember if I took my LSAT then or I was thinking of taking it then, I also applied to Teach for America and I applied for other jobs because I just didn't feel like going straight through to law school.

Q: What did you major in?

A: English and Philosophy, much to the chagrin of my engineer dad and accountant mother. [LAUGHS]

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- Q: Two subjects where you can't make any money (inaudible)...
- A: Exactly, so I had applied, I got a couple of job offers and I got into to Teach for America so I did that.
- Q: Where were you?
- A: In the Bay area, so I taught in San Jose.
- Q: So that's what took you to California for the first time.
- A: That's what took me to California for the first time. Teach for America, they ask you for your preferences, your top choices, your bottom choices, and I know people who were in places from there and in-between, so the Bay area was one of my top choices, I picked cities because I am from New York, I wasn't used to driving a lot, but of course I got sent to San Jose where you actually really have to drive all the time. I thought that maybe I'd go to Oakland, I asked for elementary school, I taught high school.
- Q: Sounds like the military, yeah.
- A: Yeah, but it was a really great choice and I honestly think that if I hadn't wanted to go to law school, I probably would have stayed in teaching. I might have moved back to New York and continued teaching here but I knew that if waited to go to law school much longer my desire to go and