

didn't want to look back in later years and think that I had spent my whole career practising only one type of law. Also, I thought I wasn't challenging myself enough – I wanted to learn new things and develop different skills, which really wasn't happening in private practice.

I remain incredibly grateful not only for being appointed to the role but also to all of my colleagues at the Department who helped me on my very steep learning curve, from learning in detail the complexities of policy and legislative processes, to appearing at Estimates and finding my way around Parliament House. I will always look back at that time as a highlight of my career.

LUCY: What advice would you give to the next generation of female leaders in the industry?

ANGELA: Don't take advice from articles like this!

On a more serious note:

Listen to your instincts when you are making decisions. That doesn't mean don't take into account the facts and rely on your gut. But if, when you are making a decision, you think the facts point one way but your instincts are pointing you towards another answer, then that probably means that you are missing information or haven't given the correct weight to different factors – so look at it again.

Don't flog a dead horse. In other words, if something isn't working, it isn't working. So stop doing it in the expectation that somehow things will get better or outcomes will improve. That just won't happen and you need to do something else.

Make sure that you are open to change, in all aspects of your life. I constantly marvel at how quickly not only the law, but life more generally, changes all the time – if you aren't thinking about external change and how you can use that in your own life and career you are missing out on opportunities.

LUCY: If you could have dinner with any woman – living or passed, real or fictional, who would it be and why?

ANGELA: Ash Barty, to convince her to return to professional tennis. We were lucky enough to watch Ash when she won the Australian Open in 2022 – she played such an amazing tournament and under so much pressure! Ash is a lovely person, polite to her competitors and gave a lot to tennis. I know that soon she will be a mother, but given Ash retired young, I'm still holding out hope that she will come back to the sport!

Justine Munsie

Partner, Addisons

Justine Munsie, Partner at Addisons, specialises in the media, entertainment and advertising industries. Justine advises on contractual and strategic issues, pre-publication clearances, post-publication complaints, brand development and protection, digital media and regulatory issues, such as investigations involving the ACCC and the ACMA, as well as a range of disputes relevant to those areas, including defamation, copyright and trade marks. Justine spoke with **Anthony Sonego**, lawyer at APRA AMCOS, ahead of International Women's Day.

ANTHONY SONEGO: Hi Justine, thank you for taking the time to speak with us ahead of IWD 2023. What does a typical day look like for you?

JUSTINE MUNSIE: For better or worse, when my alarm goes off, the first thing I do is check my phone. It is both a blessing and a curse that legal advice can be given from under one's doona. It allows me to work out what my day will look like before I get my children ready for school and make my way into the office. After that, there's coffee and the rest is a blur.

ANTHONY: What recent events in the Australian media law landscape most affect your organisation/role?

JUSTINE: COVID confirmed the pre-eminence of streamable TV and other online content as forms of entertainment. Lots of it needs pre-publication review and it all needs to be done yesterday.

ANTHONY: Looking ahead, what developments do you see on the horizon in 2023 for the communications and media legal landscape?

JUSTINE: The introduction of a statutory right to privacy could be mind-blowing and clog the Federal Court lists for the rest of our days.

ANTHONY: Turning from the future to the past, what advice would you give to your younger self?

JUSTINE: Lawyers are surprisingly generous people. Never be afraid to tell one you can't do something or ask them for help.

ANTHONY: How do you unplug from work?

JUSTINE: Ideally, I'd travel but I'm almost as happy watching or reading anything I haven't legalised first.

ANTHONY: If there is one thing you would celebrate about International Women's Day in this industry, specifically, what would it be?

JUSTINE: When I started as a solicitor, the media industry was decidedly blokey. It didn't bother me as such but I was very much aware of often being the only girl in the courtroom or the boardroom.



Things have changed enormously since then and there are now great numbers of hugely talented women at senior levels in all facets of the industry – from CEOs, Commercial Directors, General Counsel, Program EPs, Editors-in-Chief, barristers, and law firm Partners and senior lawyers.

ANTHONY: What advice would you give to the next generation of female leaders in the industry?

JUSTINE: The media does not sleep, but you need to. So admit you need to share the load at home and at work and constantly seek out people and organisations to work with where you can achieve that.

ANTHONY: Finally, if you could have dinner with any woman – living or passed, real or fictional, who would it be and why?

JUSTINE: Sergeant Catherine Cawood and her sister Clare from Happy Valley. For the accents alone. And to check in on Our Ryan.

ANTHONY: Thank you so much for time Justine, it was a pleasure speaking with you.