

JOSH FOLEY, 26

University of Idaho, USA. Main interests - international and environmental law. Other degree – Bachelor of Arts in History.

I WANTED TO STUDY LAW to be able to have a job that allowed me to help people. Working with environmental and international law you're dealing with people's human rights by trying to secure things we (in Australia and America) take for

The world has limited resources and I would like to help people who aren't in positions of power get access to those resources to enjoy good standards of living. I'd like to work in government on policy work towards those ends, or working with community groups on educating the public about those issues.

I worked with the student division of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and heard about the Lawyers Alliance through them. When I moved to Australia I volunteered because the Alliance's broader rights-based agenda appealed to me.

JONATHAN TYNE, 22

University of Technology, Sydney. Main interests - rights and liberties. Other degree - BA Communications.

I STARTED LAW BECAUSE I was interested in understanding the way the law impacted society, and I've always liked the idea of arguing for a living. I want to be involved in the law, either from a policy or practical perspective. I'd also like to find a career that allows me flexibility and a range of opportunities to explore my interests.

I started volunteering here because I wanted to get involved with an organisation that was concerned with social justice issues – not just the bottom line. I also saw it as an opportunity to find out more about legal jobs that aren't highly publicised because they're not in top-tier corporate firms.

RANJINI ACHARYA, 21

University of Sydney. Main interests – criminal and family law. Other degree – Bachelor of Science (Psychology).

I HAD NO IDEA OF WHAT I WANTED TO DO at the end of high school, and law seemed to provide the most options. It also gave me the longest time to make up my mind about my luture! I don't necessarily want to use my degree in a direct way, in a courtroom setting. But I would like to practise in a legal field that gives me client contact and lets me use my law degree in tandem with my psychology degree.

I wanted to volunteer to gain exposure to non-corporate legal organisations, and get some work experience while still at university. I especially wanted an alternative to the standard work experience at corporate law firms.

KEN CHAN, 22

University of Sydney. Main interest – Medical Negligence. Other degree - Bachelor of Science (Advanced).

I WAS PARTICULARLY FASCINATED at how the law intersects with science, as illustrated when science is used to establish evidentiary standards of proof, or where misapplied scientific developments result in medical negligence. I am particularly interested in the biological sciences and am the Deputy Director of the National Biology Olympiad Program, which trains high school students for international competition. I wish to become a practising solicitor in a firm representing plaintiffs in their medical negligence claims.

I wanted to use the legal theory I had learned by expanding my understanding of recent developments in the law. When I found out about the Lawyers Alliance and its work, I knew I wanted to become involved.