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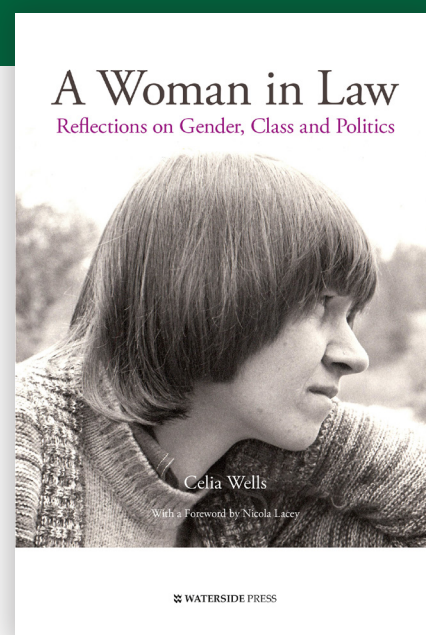
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## Advance Information

**Title** A Woman in Law  
**Subtitle** Reflections on Gender, Class and Politics  
**Author** Celia Wells **Foreword** Nicola Lacey  
**Publisher** Waterside Press Ltd  
**Format** Paperback 234x156mm, 200 pages  
**ISBN** 978-1-909976-66-5  
**Price** £19.95 **Rights** Worldwide  
**Publication** 11 September 2019 **Edition** 1st  
**Category** legal history, women, gender, law  
**Subjects** BGA=Autobiography; LAZ=Legal history  
**Who will buy it?** Lawyers, educationalists, women's interest groups, those interested in gender, feminism, women's rights, equality of opportunity.



Celia Wells has been an 'outsider' all her life: from an unconventional upbringing by her Communist Party parents (who would sit out the National Anthem), her colourful ancestors (one transported to Australia, another a bigamist), town not gown in Oxford, middle-class but living in a council flat, to swimming against the tide of male prejudice in her chosen career and coping with all those things that happen to individuals who do not belong.

*A Woman in Law* traces all these developments: Part I 'Accidental Communists' tells of the author's peculiar upbringing, her parents' Bohemian friends, their coded-language and against the grain and enquiring mind-set, which she inherited. Part II 'Life, Law and Feminism' records her career and explains how, despite the odds, she became Cardiff University's first woman law professor. Cautioned by one male colleague that she might as well research not women academics but 'Dogs and the Law', she rebounded with leading works on class, gender and politics as they affect women's legal progress. As she did on manslaughter, helping to found corporate responsibility. Part II also explains the challenges, rebuffs and excuses (largely of men) that were (and she argues still are) the lot of career and other women; and she recalls the domestic upsets, loyalties and tragedy that had to be fitted-in.

### Key Selling Points

- **Distils the essence of women's career challenges.**
- **Explores how and why women may be held back.**
- **A deeply personal story of resilience.**
- **Two memorable articles are reproduced as appendices: For the first she contacted every woman law professor in the UK; and in the second made the case for corporate responsibility for homicide that we nowadays take for granted.**

### From the Foreword

'Beautifully written and searingly honest... a rare resource... emotionally articulate and deeply considered'—  
*Nicola Lacey.*

### Author

Celia Wells is Emerita Professor of Criminal Law at the University of Bristol. An early exponent of the need to understand law in wider contexts, in 1995 she became the first woman law professor at Cardiff. She is the author of *Corporations and Criminal Responsibility* (2001), *Negotiating Tragedy* (1995) and *Reconstructing Criminal Law* (with Nicola Lacey, latest edn. 2010). Awarded the OBE in 2006, she is a past President of the Society of Legal Scholars.



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