

# TRANSGENDER

## Understanding the Law of Gender Identity and Expression

### Robyn Gigl

There are an estimated 1.5 million transgender people in the United States.

If you think *any* of these thoughts,

*I have no reason to learn anything about transgender individuals;*

*I don't have any transgender clients;*

*These issues don't impact my current clients;*

*Transgender rights are not a major issue where I practice;*

**you are wrong!**

60 to 90  
minutes

Almost every lawyer, regardless of location or specialization, is virtually certain to encounter the complex issues involved in this developing area of civil rights. Your clients will expect you to know how to navigate these matters effectively and adroitly.

Gigl uses her own personal story to humanize the issues involved and to present a different narrative of what many want to denigrate as a "lifestyle choice." She will provide you with a checklist of "dos and don'ts" to help your clients approach these issues in a sensitive and sensible manner to **avoid costly litigation**.



**Robyn Gigl** is a partner at the New Jersey firm Gluck Walrath, LLP. She has been handling complex litigation including employment law, commercial and business litigation and white-collar criminal defense for more than 35 years representing clients in state and federal courts in New Jersey. Robyn, who is the Chair of the New Jersey State Bar Association's LGBT Rights Section and on the Board of Directors of Garden State Equality and the Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund, also has an expertise on LGBT issues in the workplace.

As a transgender woman, Gigl had the unique experience of being the managing partner of her law firm while transitioning from male to female. As managing partner, she successfully led her firm through the complex cultural and practical issues that face corporate policy makers, managers and co-workers when an employee goes through the gender affirmation process.

Gigl is the author of multiple articles on transgender issues for the New Jersey State Bar Association and a chapter in BNA's leading treatise on the subject. She speaks frequently on transgender issues to bar groups and the judiciary, law schools, corporate groups and financial institutions. Robyn is also the author of the recently released novel, *By Way of Sorrow*.

Gigl is AV® Rated by Martindale-Hubbell, and has been selected as a New Jersey *Super Lawyer* since 2010. She is a graduate of Stonehill College, and Villanova University School of Law where she was a Member and Associate Editor of the *Villanova Law Review*.



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