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THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STATE BAR ADMISSIONS PROCESS

You've just been arrested and charged with some type of crime. You have just been a victim of a crime. One of your friends or family members has just been a victim of a crime, or accused of a crime. You're going through a divorce. You're being sued by a creditor. You're late on child support payments, or you're not receiving child support payments that you're entitled to. Your house is being repossessed. You've been subpoenaed to testify as a witness. You've just been in a car accident. (Man, you are definitely having one lousy day.)

Anytime you are involved in anything that potentially involves litigation or a court proceeding of some type, in all likelihood you will either need a lawyer or be opposed by a lawyer. The type of people who become lawyers ultimately determines the type of justice system we have, and therefore affects every single citizen that is a Nonattorney. What type of person do you want to hire as your lawyer? Do you want their primary interest to be fighting on your behalf, or are you more concerned that they conduct themselves in a manner that pleases the agency that licenses them? Do you want them to be more concerned about the financial interests of the agency that licenses them, or more concerned about helping you? Do you want them to have a fear inside them, that if they zealously represent you and offend the opposing party's attorney during the process, that they may lose their license? It's my guess the average Nonattorney's concern with lawyers is singular. They want someone who will fight as hard as possible to win their case, without regard to the impact such has on the financial interests of other attorneys.

So, I present the question again. What kind of lawyer do you want to represent you? The determination is made through the State Bar admissions process. The State Bar admissions process ultimately affects all Nonattorneys one way or the other. If it is designed to foster a fear and subservience within the attorney, then their clients will not have zealous representation. If it is designed to admit convicted felons on a regular and pervasive basis, then clients will also suffer. If it is designed to place new attorneys at a disadvantage compared to older attorneys, by requiring new attorneys to disclose an unreasonable amount of information about their personal life, then the clients of new attorneys are at a comparable disadvantage. If it is designed to instill in the new attorney an understanding that rules apply one way to strong regulatory agencies, but in a different way to weak individuals, the attorney can be expected to conduct himself in accordance with such knowledge.

If it is designed to exclude minorities, then Nonattorney minorities will not be able to obtain competent representation. If it is designed to glean out individuals with bad "attitudes," then clients must expect courts will ultimately adjudicate cases based upon litigant "attitudes," or the "attitude" of attorneys representing the litigants. The facts, law and evidence will have a diminished importance in comparison with the "attitudes" of those involved. The State Bar admissions process affects every person, and every single facet of society. That's why it is critical for the process to be objective, fair, and clearly defined. Currently, it is arbitrary, discretionary, capricious and as correctly stated by the U.S. Supreme Court, a "dangerous instrument."