***‘’***[***One of the things I was taught in law school is that I'd never be able to think the same again - that being a lawyer is something that's part of who I am as an individual now.***](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/a/anitahill359401.html?src=t_law)***’’***

-[**Anita Hill**](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/a/anita_hill.html)

This is something I have learned the hard way after three years of university. I tried to deny something that is inherent in me the moment I chose to deviate from the path of pursuing a career in law. Since devoting myself to the study of law I have invested a lot of time and effort into working towards the ultimate goal of becoming a solicitor.

From a young age I have had a clear sense of right and wrong. That is not to say I have never done any wrong. However, I always try to consider the implications of my actions on other people. This was instilled in me by my mother from a very early age and I have been guided by her ever since. It is important for students of law to have an acute awareness of right and wrong and the grey areas between the two concepts if they are to be competent solicitors.

From as early as secondary school my teachers identified law as a suitable career choice for me due to my interest in politics, legal affairs and history. Also, during my three years studying Commerce and Accounting, I was introduced to quite a lot of business law. This stimulated my interest, encouraging me to choose as many law modules as possible as my electives. While this put added pressure on me during exam time, I enjoyed the challenge and I think it is no coincidence that my grades in the law modules were some of the highest grades I attained throughout my degree. While I have since diverged from the area of accounting, I still have an interest in the world of commerce and the combination of having a background in both finance and law is something that I believe will stand to me if I was to be working in a commercial law firm. I am also attracted to the fast pace of business law and the idea of working with some of the largest companies in the world and being involved in their continued expansion would appeal to me greatly. In addition, I work-shadowed a solicitor in my local town for a few weeks last summer as he worked in his office and I found this to be a beneficial experience. This gave me a slight taste of what being a solicitor is all about and it made me want to pursue it all the more.

I genuinely believe that my characteristics are suited to the legal profession. I am a voracious reader and can absorb large quantities of information quickly. I also love to debate and I was part of a two-person team which won a Connacht debating competition during Transition Year. My communication skills are enhanced by my ability to listen and learn and I thoroughly enjoy interacting with people and trying to figure out what makes them tick. I have an analytical mind and I always try to come up with a conclusion based on sound logic and intense reasoning. I would hope that these attributes will serve me well in the highly competitive industry of commercial law.

Finally, I am quite a competitive person. This trait probably stems from my interest in sport but it also extends to my academic life. There is a fine line between being competitive and being antagonistic but I would like to think that I come down on the right side of that line. In a field such as commercial law, I feel as though a desire to be the best one can possibly be could only be seen as a positive attribute.

ByrneWallace is one of the leading law firms in Ireland. If you want to be the best, who better to work for than the best? As recently as May they were awarded the Law Firm of the Year for 2016 at the AIB Private Banking Irish Law Awards. This illustrates their commitment to professional excellence and their ambition to excel in their industry which makes the prospect of working with ByrneWallace all the more appealing.