

In 2015 I was appointed Junior Treasury Counsel, instructed to prosecute homicide and serious offences at the Central Criminal Court. I am also a Recorder of the Crown Court and have spent the last twenty-odd years practising criminal law mostly in London. I was born and brought up in a middle-sized town in middle England. I am mixed race. My parents did not go to university. Like everyone else I knew, I went to my local state school and then I went to a polytechnic. Having been called to the Bar, I set off on my career with an unfunded pupillage during the day and a waitressing job at night. It wasn't a promising start but I managed to carve out a career through hard work and perseverance, learning my trade, case by case. I cannot say that I never made mistakes or that my cases were ground breaking. But they all mattered to someone. That is why this is an important and rewarding job and it is why we need people from different backgrounds to join our profession to help us reflect the society that we serve. I support the work of the Social Mobility Committee.