

something more “heady.”

“You’ll be a perfect lawyer,” my dad had been pounding into my head since I started college. But I resisted, opting instead for media tours, special events and pitching to the local media. I was good, but I was not satisfied. Facing 30, I decided it is either now or never. I would never be the “what-if girl,” and I would never want my (then-fictitious) daughter to think we as women cannot change the direction of our lives, if we feel like it.

I embarked on my legal education, eventually landing a clerking job at my current firm. I was at the right place at the right time when a position as an associate became available in our family law department. It was a perfect fit for my personality and temperament, and after almost 13 years and counting—from law clerk to partner—I have not turned back.

But did life slow down for me? Not at all. During the 13 years with my firm, I have gotten married, had two active and nuanced children with a

Katy's Tips

Ask for help and don't be ashamed to. My nanny has amazing hours—the witching hours—and it has helped us tremendously.

Commit to one philanthropic cause (not multiple), and go hard with one networking group. It's about quality, not quantity.

Find small ways to stay involved in your kids' activities. I'm a room parent, and while people think that's too much, I'm able to multitask what needs to be done and it allows me to feel connected and that I've done my part. And my kiddos appreciate it!

husband who travels at least once a week for work, and started to build a future that I think looks more secure than I ever thought it would. What has been particularly hard, however, has been what most women and especially female lawyers face: How do we do it all?

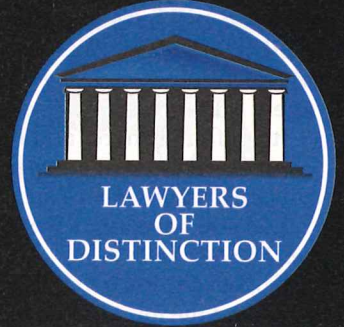
Despite calls for balance, I find myself more of a “cup-runneeth-over” kind of person and, frankly, I could not be more satisfied. I have filled my career to the hilt with legal and philanthropic events to co-chair; scheduled breakfasts, lunches and coffees for networking; written articles and lectured. I have also motivated myself with mother's guilt to remain as room parent for the past two years of my son's schooling and gotten to know other families by arranging playdates and after-school activities for my kids. And I try to remain present when I finally unlock the door of my home, and I hear my little ones' screeches. While I cannot

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