Combatting LGBT Implicit Bias in the Legal Profession

Tuesday, September 16th
1pm ET, 12pm CT, 10am PT

While many may think there are high percentages of LGBT individuals in the legal profession, the reality is still much different. LGBT individuals are less likely to go to law school than their straight peers and less likely to remain in the legal profession. Why is this? What are some of the ways to address these issues? Many think that implicit bias may be one of the main factors. Implicit bias – unconscious stereotyping and prejudice that impacts perceptions of and behaviors toward social groups – is receiving increased attention in the scientific and legal communities.

This interactive webinar will explore implicit bias in the legal profession, ask why LGBT individuals struggle against implicit bias both before and after securing legal employment, and how individuals (both straight and LGBT) can work to be better allies toward their LGBT coworkers. Our speakers will provide background on social science methodologies with respect to implicit bias generally, as well as some current issues specific to implicit bias toward LGBT persons. There will be a discussion on the effects of implicit bias in employment and the consequences on the careers of LGBT lawyers. Our speakers will share personal experiences and offer practical suggestions for combating implicit bias and becoming a better ally in the both the legal and broader employment community.

Speakers

Kylar Broadus
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Foundation
Washington, DC

Collin Cooper
Pharmaceutical Products Development, Inc.
Morrisville, NC

Catherine E. Reuben
Hirsch Roberts Weinstein LLP
Boston, MA

Lauren Stiller Rikleen
Institute for Strategic Leadership
Chestnut Hill, MA