



Rianna Spence

Summer Student

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Law School

Osgoode Hall Law School

Rianna is entering her second year of law school at Osgoode Hall. During her first year, Rianna co-hosted the podcast "What's Law Got To Do With It?" with Professor Richard Haigh, where the two interviewed guests and provided advice to aspiring law students and 1Ls. The podcast is set to re-release this summer and Rianna intends on continuing to co-host the podcast throughout her time at Osgoode.

Prior to attending law school, Rianna completed her Master's Degree in Socio-Legal Studies at York University where she investigated auto insurance discrimination against the GTA custom car community. Her research involved qualitative and quantitative research into how personal demographics, such as age, sex, and postal code, can affect auto insurance rates and understanding who is most affected by these high rates. The research ultimately called for a revisit and possible repeal of s. 22 of the *Code* which allows private-run insurance companies to discriminate based on Charter-protected personal demographics due to the nature of actuarial risk differentiation.

Before graduate school, Rianna completed an Honours Bachelor of Arts with a double major in Criminology and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies at Western University. During this time, Rianna served on the executive team of Black Future Lawyers Western, was a blog writer for BoostHER Western, and was an associate editor for the Canadian Law Review. She also completed an undergraduate thesis focused on the trauma-to-prison pipeline for women and girls of colour, with a case study of *Cyntoia Brown v. State of Tennessee*. This work aligned with investigative journalism work that Rianna completed which sought to expose the increase in Domestic Violence/Intimate-Partner Violence during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prior to joining McCarthy's, Rianna worked as an assembly line worker in the paint department of a vehicle manufacturing plant, which produced Dodge Chargers, Dodge Challengers, and Chrysler 300s. Her job involved using power tools to remove surface-level defects in the paint before the car was shipped to the assembly portion of the plant, and being the final inspector of completed cars before it was shipped to customers. Interestingly, Rianna was able to work on the last Dodge Challenger SRT Demon as part of Dodge's "Last Call" series as they switch to electric and hybrid vehicles.

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Outside of work and school, Rianna is an avid Netflix binger, with some of her comfort shows being *Grey's Anatomy*, *On my Block*, *How to Get Away with Murder*, and *Money Heist*. She is also an avid NBA fan and participates in fantasy basketball (fun fact: she won the league the first time she played!).