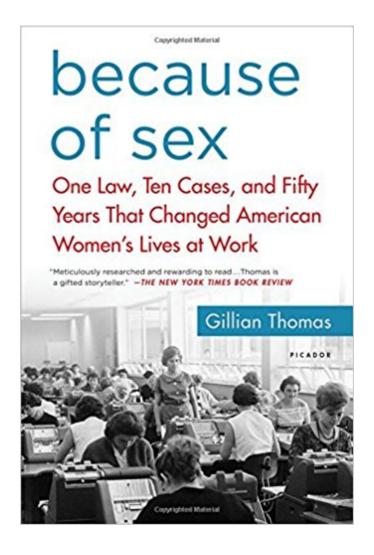


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# Because Of Sex: One Law, Ten Cases, And Fifty Years That Changed American Women's Lives At Work





## **Synopsis**

One of The New York Timesââ ¬â,¢s 10 Books to Read for Womenââ ¬â,¢s History MonthGillian Thomas's Because of Sex tells the story of how one law, our highest court, and a few tenacious women changed the American workplace forever. Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act revolutionized the lives of Americaââ ¬â,¢s working women, making it illegal to discriminate ââ ¬Å"because of sex.â⠬• But that simple phrase didnââ ¬â,¢t mean much until ordinary women began using the law to get justice on the jobâ⠬⠢and some took their fights all the way to the Supreme Court. These unsung heroinesââ ¬â,¢ victories, and those of the other women profiled in Because of Sex, dismantled a Mad Men world where women could only hope to play supporting roles, where sexual harassment was ââ ¬Å"just the way things are,â⠬• and where pregnancy meant getting a pink slip.

### **Book Information**

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It is a must read for anyone man or woman who puts on a uniform, or a suit, and goes to work every day." Clara Bingham co-author, "Class Action: The Landmark Case that Changed Sexual Harassment Law""In these gripping stories of the unsung women who helped lead the legal fight for gender equality, Gillian Thomas elegantly proves Justice Holmes s maxim, 'The life of the law has not been logic; it has been experience, 'and she shows in vivid, painful detail how the brave battles of these plaintiffs made real life better for millions of their fellow Americans, women and men alike if, sadly, not always for themselves." Todd S. Purdum, author of "An Idea Whose Time Has Come: Two Presidents, Two Parties and the Battle for the Civil Rights Act of 1964""""Because of Sex" is the definitive and up to the minute account of one of if not the most important achievements of the feminist revolution: legal equality in the workplace. Not only does Thomas tell this invaluable story, she brings the wronged women, their lawyers, and even the bad actors on the other side to life in the most engaging way. The reader comes to care for these largely unsung heroines deeply and to learn a lot of law along the way. Brava!" Linda Hirshman, author of "Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor" and "Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World" A singularly important look into the relationship between women, the workplace, and the law. Gillian Thomas close-reads ten seminal cases. It's almost impossible to believe that this legal architecture didn't exist until so recently, or that women managed to work at all without it. This is a compelling, readable narrative about a law that changed everything, and the people who worked to spearhead a revolution. Dahlia Lithwick, "Slate"""Thomas grips her reader from the start.. 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GILLIAN THOMAS is a senior staff attorney with the American Civil Liberties Unionââ ¬â,¢s (ACLU) Womenââ ¬â,¢s Rights Project. She previously litigated sex discrimination cases at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Legal Momentum (formerly NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund). Her work has appeared in The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, The Atlantic, and Slate, and she has been interviewed by NPR and The Wall Street Journal, among others. She lives in Brooklyn.

This is an easy and interesting read that brings you into the lives of these courageous and the lawyers who defended them. I sent a copy to each of my daughters. I had hoped a woman president (HILLARY) would have been the topping to this great book. A must read for women AND men. When women are denied jobs and paid less, it hurts the entire family- generation after generation.

An incredible read. If you like the law, women, and biographies, this is one of the best books you'll ever read. Not only will you get a firm handle on the ten most important cases respecting women

and employment just by reading this, but it's written so well, the pages turn themselves. Fascinating and just a great read.

Very helpful reminder of how hard this fight always is!

This overview of the cases related to gender based discrimination was entertaining and informative. With each chapter focusing on one case - the flow is easy to stick with - and avoiding the repetition common in other books of this type.

My daughter is in law school and loved this book. She did say it was written rather simply. But if your not a law student that's probably a good thing.

An honest look at the issues women in the workforce have faced and continue to face. Inspiring tales of women who were brace enough to defend their rights in the face of so much resistance.

Great book and interesting storyline.

Interesting and well-researched. This is an important book that shows the unintended effects of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

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