



The Journal

ESSAY COMPETITION

The Questions

1

Should the law mandate neurodivergent representation in film and television?

This article should analyse the legal implications and artistic considerations of casting decisions in the entertainment industry, particularly in relation to casting neurodivergent actors in neurodivergent roles. It should explore how such casting practices align with or challenge the principles set out in the Equality Act 2010, any further legislative proposals, and consider issues of authenticity, representation, and inclusivity. Consider how authentic representation of neurodivergence in media may or may not influence public perception.

or

2

Is the Criminal Bar truly accessible to neurodivergent practitioners?

This article should analyse the accessibility of the Criminal Bar for neurodivergent barristers. It should explore the potential barriers, if any, that neurodivergent individuals may encounter in entering and thriving in a career in criminal law, such as structural, cultural, and attitudinal obstacles. The analysis should also spotlight any existing support systems and suggest possible solutions to improve accessibility and inclusivity within the Criminal Bar.

www.neurodiversityinlaw.co.uk

Neurodiversity in Law is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in England and Wales, registered charity number 1208013.



The Journal Team

Questions?

Contact thejournal@neurodiversityinlaw.co.uk

ESSAY COMPETITION

Want to enter our competition? Here are some things to consider whilst writing your article!



Word Count

Please limit yourself to between **1,500** and **3,500** words.
Footnotes are not included!

Please only submit one essay!

As much as we cannot wait to see what you produce, we only have capacity to judge one essay per person.

Grammar, spelling and punctuation

You can't go wrong with the BBC Style Guide:
Grammar, spelling and punctuation (bbc.co.uk)

Please avoid using AI-generated content.

It is fine for an initial structure and task initiation, but we will be able to tell if the piece is not written by you.

Don't burn out whilst writing.

Please make sure you prioritise your needs whilst writing. If there are any adjustments we can make, please ask!

Please save your completed essay as a **PDF** with **your full name in the file name.**



DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES
02 SEPTEMBER 2024 (5PM BST)

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ESSAY COMPETITION Terms and Conditions

Introduction:

This competition offers a platform for emerging voices in the legal community to contribute to the important conversation about neurodiversity and inclusivity within the law.

Eligibility:

The competition is open to all law students and legal professionals who are studying at Higher Education institutions and/or who practise (or intend to practise) in England and Wales. If you have any questions about your eligibility, please contact us using the contact information below. Over 18s only.

Submission Requirements:

Entries: Entrants may only submit one entry for one of the two topics.

Deadline: Extended to 02 September 2024 at 5pm (BST)

Word Count: Each article should be between 1,500 and 3,500 words. Footnotes are optional and not included in the word count.

Formatting: Articles must be written in an appropriate style for publication in clear English and submitted electronically in PDF using the assigned Google form.

Plagiarism: The essay must be the sole creation and original work of the entrant. Plagiarism will result in your entry being disqualified.

Submission Process:

Please use the Google Form <https://forms.gle/s5pmdCshU6LpS1G4A> to upload your entry.

The deadline for submissions will be Monday 02 September 2024 at 17:00 (5pm) BST.

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Prizes:

The winning essays will receive a total of £200 and be published in the first edition of The Journal. They will also receive a printed copy of The Journal.

Judging Criteria and Process:

Articles will be judged by a specialist panel of barristers and solicitors based on the following criteria:

- *Relevance and Insight:* How well the article addresses the topic and provides insightful analysis from both a neurodiversity and legal perspective.
- *Argument:* The strength and coherence of the arguments presented.
- *Research:* The quality and depth of legal research underpinning the article.
- *Clarity and Style:* The clarity of writing and overall presentation.

The panel's decision is final. All articles will be anonymised by a member of Neurodiversity in Law, not on the judging panel, to prevent any conflicts of interest. Judging will take place over the 14 days after the close of submissions, and winners will be announced in due course via email and thereafter via social media with the winner's consent.

Intellectual Property:

Any article that is not selected as a winner will remain your own. However, if your article is selected for publication, it will be considered as jointly authored as defined in the terms of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. This allows us to publish your article under The Journal.

Privacy:

All personal data will be used solely for competition purposes and will not be shared with third parties, which aligns with our Privacy Policy. Winning entries will be contacted to sign a disclosure form.

Disqualification:

Essays that do not adhere to the guidelines or are plagiarised will be disqualified. Any late entry will not be accepted.

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