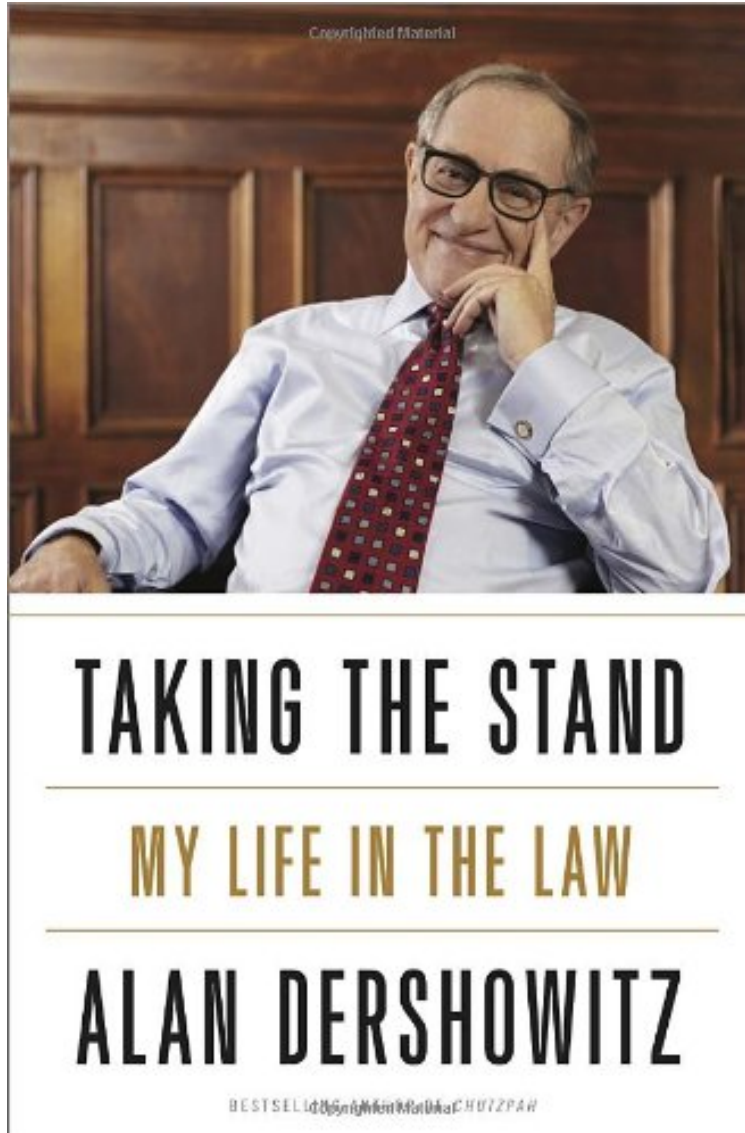


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Taking the Stand: My Life in the Law

Alan M. Dershowitz

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Alan M. Dershowitz : Taking the Stand: My Life in the Law before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Taking the Stand: My Life in the Law:

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A very readable and interesting book.By S. BrockIf you've read some of Mr. Dershowitz's books before, you already know what an engaging and smart writer this man is. His title refers to his life from a youngster to his life now, and so is an autobiography, and I must say a fascinating biography.

You'll be very pleasantly surprised at the amount of information that this man, who has been in the middle of so much of our country's very important scenes, shares with his readers. I highly recommend this book for all who love to read and to learn. All I need to say for readers of some of his works is that you will not, in the least bit, be disappointed by this book. On the contrary, I was sorry when it ended and wished it would have been 700 pages instead of the 400 something. Very enjoyable. For those who have yet to read any of his many books (I highly recommend "Reasonable Doubt" as well for a look into the true way our American justice/trial system is "supposed" to work.. This is all about O.J.'s 1994 trial. It is absolutely fascinating and eye opening.), you'll find this man to be a very intelligent and supremely interesting writer. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Great Book By AT This is a great book and should be required reading for anyone planning to attend law school. It is being applauded for the life story, the famous cases and the liberalism but in my opinion it should be celebrated for the taste it gives the reader of the dance of the hypotheticals, the way of thinking taught at the great law schools, and to some graduates the primary reason for going to law school. Dershowitz shows the reader how he thinks, and how he argues on his appeals. Although my politics are as far right as his are left, and I am a constitutional strict constructionist and he is anything but, we seem to share the same sense of right and wrong, good and bad. This is only the second book I have forced on youngsters planning to go to law school, the other book being Harvey Silverglate's astonishing THREE FELONIES, and I did not know that Silverglate was a Dershowitz pupil and occasional associate. It is truly a small world. I don't know either man as I have met Dershowitz once and have never met Silverglate. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Amazing... down to earth By Rick Rubalcaba Again amazing! I loved this work of art, writing, and a voice; Alan Dershowitz brings the audits to first person view to the reader. Everything was exciting using his experiences and hands on account to use the law to his advantages and help adjust and change the law and society. This a must to read this book!

America's most prominent legal mind and the #1 bestselling author of *Chutzpah* and *The Best Defense*, Alan Dershowitz, recounts his legal autobiography, describing how he came to the law, as well as the cases that have changed American jurisprudence over the past 50 years, most of which he has personally been involved in. In *Taking the Stand*, Dershowitz reveals the evolution of his own thinking on such fundamental issues as censorship and the First Amendment, Civil Rights, Abortion, homicide and the increasing role that science plays in a legal defense. Alan Dershowitz, the Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law at Harvard University, and the author of such acclaimed bestsellers as *Chutzpah*, *The Best Defense*, and *Reversal of Fortune*, for the first time recounts his legal biography, describing his struggles academically at Yeshiva High School growing up in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, his successes at Yale, clerking for Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg, his appointment to full professor at the Harvard at age 28, the youngest in the school's history. Dershowitz went on to work on many of the most celebrated cases in the land, from appealing (successfully) Claus Von Bulow's conviction for the murder of his wife Sunny, to the O.J. Simpson trial, to defending Mike Tyson, Leona Helmsley, Patty Hearst, and countless others. He is currently part of the legal team advising Julian Assange.

"The list of legal issues and controversies that bear Dershowitz's thumbprints is breathtaking. That one man involved himself in the Pentagon Papers case, the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal, Kennedys Chappaquiddick investigation, Sharanskys release from a Soviet prison, the O.J. trial, Bush v. Gore, the Mike Tyson rape case, the Woody Allen-Mia Farrow custody dispute, the Julian Assange WikiLeaks investigation and the public debate over Trayvon Martin, reflects not just the breadth of Dershowitz's experience but also its depth and duration. Love him or hate him, Dershowitz has lived a life that matters, hugely and enduringly. He is a man in full at a time when most of us aspire to be little more than a presence on Twitter." -New York Times Book "In 'Taking the Stand,' Dershowitz commands the stage. . . he fills his book to overflowing with fascinating and funny vignettes involving his cases and clients, and probing and provocative insights into contemporary legal controversies, ranging from censorship to civil rights, national security, sexual harassment, rape, abortion, the separation of church and state, and the use of scientific evidence in murder cases. Whether he is discussing people or policies, he leaves no doubt about where he stands." - Glenn C. Altschuler, *The Boston Globe* The problem with writing about Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz, of course, is Dershowitz himself. He is impossibly, almost self-consciously annoying. As he writes in his latest book, *Taking the Stand*, he does not hide behind the distorting shield of false humility. If Dershowitz isn't getting in your face about something, it's as if he's not doing his job. I love that Dershowitz credits the *Classic Comics* for his introduction to literature. In an amusing vignette, Woody Allen asks Dershowitz which dead person he might have represented. Dershowitz replies: Jesus. The Mike Tyson material in *Stand* is fascinating, and the Bobby Fisher anecdote alone is worth the \$28 cover price. I'm never satisfied unless I get the last word, he writes in *[Taking the] Stand*. Then he provides the text of his letter to the editor, finding fault with the as-yet unpublished, indeed unwritten obituaries that he assumes will herald his passing. We all wish [Dershowitz] a long and healthy life. Alex Beam, *Boston Globe* "Riveting, compelling, touching, and tender." -*The Jewish Voice* "One of the most high-profile lawyers in America, known for his work on newsworthy cases...raises provocative questions about the many dilemmas in modern

American jurisprudence, including those related to the separation of church and state, affirmative action, human rights, and the right to privacy. Dershowitz offers much of interest...-Publishers Weekly From beginning to end, this memoir is both entertaining and enlightening. We see a young and inquisitive Dershowitz continually arguing with the authority figures in his early life, never satisfied with the answer, just because Dershowitz uses his experiences to relate some very important points: the necessity of civil rights, the proper application reasonably can to help a client. Library Journal "One of the most distinguished lawyers of his generation reflects on his life and extraordinary career...The youngest full professor ever at Harvard Law School...more than four decades, he has used this perch to teach, write and speak about the laws intersections with science and psychiatry and especially about matters pertaining to constitutional and criminal law. Most unusually for a law professor, Dershowitz has maintained a highly active appellate practice, and he narrates...his life in the law through the many cases hes handled. Many of these unfailingly interesting tales feature high-profile clients like Leona Helmsley, O.J. Simpson, Mike Tyson and Bill Clinton...Dershowitz has become an important voice with an active role in the evolution of American law, touching on an astonishing breadth of issues, including capital punishment, affirmative action, pornography, national security, academic freedom and human rights. An engaging recounting of a life of serious purpose and splendid flair." -Kirkus s (Starred) From his experience on the front lines of so many pivotal cases in recent history, Professor Dershowitz made the law real for his students. He effortlessly translated how our most basic philosophical principles are alive and well in the modern justice system. In doing so, he underscored not just a commitment to equity and integrity, but a deep faith in the power of the law to make our country more honest and fair. Congressman Joe Kennedy III "I loved this book. If I could trade lives with anyone, Dershowitz would be high on my list, minus the death threats and tchotchkes." -Larry David Alan Dershowitzs real life use of science to win murder cases rivals anything on CSI and any other fictional drama. Cheers for a riveting autobiography. -Ted Danson "Alan Dershowitz's autobiography is a page turning story of a special life. It exposes and explains as only he can important events of the last fifty years of The American Experience. Dershowitz has been a player contributing to the national conversation for half a century. Everybody takes his calls." Stephen Trachtenberg, president, George Washington University About the Author Alan Dershowitz is one of the most famous and celebrated lawyers in America. He is the youngest full professor in school history at Harvard, where he is now the Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law. The author of numerous bestselling books, from Chutzpah to The Best Defense to In Defense of Israel to Reversal of Fortune, Dershowitz has advised and defended many of the most famous legal cases of the past 50 years.