



Q&A



BOWMANS

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Q *Where did your journey begin and how did you end up where you are today?*

A My first assignment as a pupil was conducting a due diligence for a financial services company about to do an IPO. It was a steep learning curve; I had no idea what to do or what was important to pick out from my reviews, but I loved the challenge. When my next assignment related to an acquisition of a company in a completely different industry, I realised that equity capital markets work was varied and interesting and I wanted in. I asked to be put on deal teams and took on any tasks I could as I worked my way up to greater responsibilities, until one day I was the one running the transactions.

Q *Were there any women who helped you on your journey?*

A Definitely. The female partners at the Bowmans Kenya office played a huge role in my own journey to partnership with honest feedback, encouragement and supporting my application. I would not be here if not for them.

Q *Did you have a female role model? If so, who was she and why was she a role model to you?*

A My mother is my ultimate role model. She was a refugee, having escaped the ethnic violence in Rwanda in the late 50s/early 60s and through her brilliance, hard work and determination, got a stellar education and had a successful career that I looked up to. Through her I learned that your beginnings do not dictate your endings.

Q *What is the most valuable thing you have learnt from another woman?*

A You need to articulate your ambitions. Do not assume people know what you want from your career journey.

Q *What qualities would you say are essential for a woman to thrive in the M&A industry?*

A It is an exciting space and easy to fall in love with. However, it is demanding, and you need to be intentional about your own growth. When you are a junior doing a section of a due diligence, take the time to read the full report, find out how it fits into the full deal. Ask questions, sit in the negotiation room and observe, consult your peers and share your ideas. All learnings are building up to you one day leading a deal, so do not take any step for granted. 

