

## Ten Minute Exercise

### Taking Silk

I've never wanted to be a lawyer but I've always liked the term "taking silk". I think this is a description used when a barrister is promoted to Queens Counsel, and I guess the silk referred to here has something to do with the gown or wig or other item of clothing worn by QCs. Becoming a QC isn't an automatic progression, I remember that Rumpole of the Bailey never made it. I think barristers are invited to become QCs, presumably by some sort of committee, and I suppose your family, school and university all help to make your face fit. On reflection I'm sure my face wouldn't fit so it's just as well I didn't choose law as a career.

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11<sup>th</sup> May 2017