



BIANCA JANOVIC

PRO BONO COUNSEL (AUSTRALIA)

[Brisbane](#)

Bianca leads our impact-driven pro bono practice in Australia.

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BACKGROUND

Bianca commenced her career with the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria and was gazetted as a mediator in 2008.

Prior to moving into a full time pro bono leadership role, Bianca spent 10 years as a senior lawyer in Herbert Smith Freehills' Disputes team and played a key role in the Indigenous-led Empowered Communities project.

Bianca holds a Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours) and a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology Major) from Monash University. She recently completed her Master of Laws (LLM) at the University of Melbourne, where her research focused on the link between workplace inclusion and mental health and wellbeing in the legal profession.

MARKET RECOGNITION

Bianca received the 2019 Kathryn Everett Leadership Fellowship for Women, which she will use to undertake an intensive leadership course at Harvard University.

In 2014, Bianca won the Law Institute of Victoria's Rising Star of the Year Award and, in 2016, she was named a Rising Star by Australasian Lawyer.

Bianca is Co-Chair of HSF's IRIS (LGBT+) Network, a member of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee and a proactive Reconciliation Action Plan Champion and Mental Health Champion.

EXPERIENCE

As Pro Bono Counsel, Bianca leads the design and supervision of our Australian pro bono practice. Bianca focuses on strategic projects which promote equal access to justice and advance the rights and opportunities of those at risk of marginalisation or systemic disadvantage.

Throughout her career, Bianca has played a key leadership role in many of Herbert Smith Freehills' most sensitive, complex and impactful pro bono and reconciliation initiatives. She has a proven track record in securing innovative legal and restorative outcomes, with experience across a diverse range of areas, including health, human rights and homelessness.

Bianca has substantial experience in partnering with First Nations people to lead community engagement in urban, rural and remote settings. She played an instrumental role in the ground-breaking Indigenous-led reform project, Empowered Communities, including as the project's inaugural Regional Coordinator for the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Lands.

Bianca is known for her strategic acumen, creative problem solving and inclusive leadership style. She is a natural advocate and collaborator, who brings a unique pallet of intellect, curiosity, energy and compassion to each project and partnership.