

Recovering Lawyers' Lost Position Of Independence - *Law360*

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That we live in divisive times, particularly on political questions, is not subject to serious dispute. Whatever the cause, we find ourselves inhabiting ever smaller communities of like-minded people — “silos,” as they have come to be known — where opinions are reinforced in feedback loops and assumptions are protected from contrary evidence.

The question that many ask is whether our institutions and traditions can help us return to a greater consensus — whether the historically steadying influences of our democracy will ensure that, in the words of the poet, the “center holds.” In days long past, the legal profession could have been counted on to serve just such a function. It no longer can, at least not to the degree it once could.

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