



St. John's Law School Forum

April 1992

Scoring High on Bar Exam Essays

*(Review of First Edition, Prentice Hall, 1991, 256 pages, in paperback, by Mary Campbell Gallagher, J.D., Ph.D.)**

Staff Writer

Before you spend hundreds on one of the more expensive seminars you might want to part with [the money] for this excellent book.

About 60,000 of us will be taking the bar in July, and many of us could benefit from the insight of Dr. Mary Campbell Gallagher. Dr. Gallagher is a graduate of Harvard Law School who teaches legal writing to Bar candidates and practicing lawyers. Her Ph.D. is in linguistics.

The book teaches candidates how to summon and catalog their knowledge on an area of law, apply it to the facts of the many

informative model questions and reach proper legal conclusions.

Dr. Gallagher intends the book as a supplement to a good bar review course and feels that it can help any candidate pass the bar on the first try.

The book has certainly helped me. It contains interesting information on how to make the transition from law school exam techniques to bar exam techniques. It also offers helpful study tips for bar candidates in regards to prioritizing information and judicious use of study time.

There is a thorough explanation of how bar exam essays are graded, as well as a helpful list of test-taking rules. All in all, the book is a well-structured guide designed to help candidates maximize their potential on bar exam essays. It provides both thought provoking actual bar exam questions and edifying answers to them. Aside from its value as a writing improvement book it is also a miniature bar review.

After spending \$40,000 on a law degree, this book may be the best [money] you can spend on bar exam preparation. It is available at Barnes & Noble.