

CASS R. SUNSTEIN Class of 1972



Cass arrived at Middlesex as a 5th classer in 1967. While at Middlesex, he was the top student in his class, was co-editor of the Anvil, editor of the yearbook, and played varsity squash (where he went undefeated in 13 matches in 1970) and tennis. Cass went on to Harvard where he graduated in magna cum laude in 1975. He wrote for the Harvard Lampoon and played varsity squash as an undergraduate. Cass received his J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1978, graduating magna cum laude and having served as an Executive Editor of the Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review. After law school, Cass spent one year as a clerk for Justice Benjamin Kaplan of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts and one year as a clerk to Justice Thurgood Marshall of the Supreme Court of the United States.

In 1981, Cass became an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Chicago Law School. He went on to hold various teaching positions at the school before becoming the Karl N. Llewellyn Professor of Jurisprudence at the Law School and Department of Political Science in 1988. In the fall of 2008, Cass joined Harvard Law School as the Director of Program on Risk Regulation.

In 2009, he was named to head the White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs by President Barack Obama. Cass has authored nearly 50 books, including Legal Reasoning and Political Conflict, Risk and Reason: safety, law, and the environment, Why Societies Need Dissent, Simpler: The Future of Government and Liars: Falsehoods and Free Speech in the Age of Deception.

In February of 2021, Cass joined the Department of Homeland Security as an advisor to the Biden Administration on immigration policy. He is also currently the Robert Walmsley University Professor at Harvard Law School