

Socio-Legal NEWSLETTER No 74 SLSA

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION AUTUMN/WINTER 2014

SALLY WHEELER AWARDED SLSA ANNUAL PRIZE 2014

The SLSA Executive Committee is delighted to announce that this year's Prize for Contributions to the Socio-Legal Community goes to former SLSA chair Professor Sally Wheeler of Queen's University Belfast. Dave Cowan explains why he nominated her.

Sally Wheeler is one of my oldest and closest academic friends. There are good reasons for this – she took me under her wing in the 1990s and I witnessed first-hand her commitment to the socio-legal cause while she was chair of the SLSA, between 1995–1999 and again from 2002–2009. She fought for that cause in successive RAE/REF consultations and developed close relationships with the ESRC which enabled socio-legal studies to be prioritised. She pushed the agenda for the socio-legal postgraduate community and it is no small thing to say that many of us owe our careers to her. It is fair to say that she does not suffer fools gladly and she can cut me down to size with a withering glance, but the best thing about Sally is that she will pick you up, dust you down, and help you make something of it. There is nobody I know who is more generous of their time both for the community and personally.

Sal will not thank me for nominating her for this prestigious award but it is about time we recognised her for her amazing contribution over the last decades. To put her career in a nutshell, she was a professor at a ridiculously young age and head of school for much of her time since at different institutions; she has written seminal texts in her field and beyond, and been on two RAE panels; and, most of all, for myself and Linda Mulcahy she has been our conference buddy at numerous conferences.

If only her beloved Aston Villa had put as much commitment into their football over the last few seasons ...

SLSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2015

31 March–2 April 2015, Warwick Law School

Warwick Law School will be welcoming SLSA members and non-member colleagues to the 2015 Annual Conference: 'Socio-legal in culture: the culture of socio-legal'. The conference coincides with the 50th anniversary of the University of Warwick and we hope that it will be a celebration of the Warwick Law School tradition of examining law in its political, social, economic and cultural context.

The call for papers and posters is now open (see page 14). Closing date: **19 January 2015**.

The conference will take place on our leafy landscaped campus in the heart of the Warwickshire countryside. Delegates will have the opportunity to explore the outdoor Warwick sculpture trail, part of the university's significant collection of contemporary art, as well as enjoying events at the Warwick Arts Centre. The surrounding region is rich with culture and heritage, with breathtaking countryside and a wide range of museums, galleries and unique market towns.

The conference will be family friendly, providing an on-site family room for young children. Children over five can take part in activities provided by the university's Holiday Scheme. A range of accommodation will be available to suit all needs and all delegates will have use of campus sports facilities including a fully equipped gymnasium, swimming pool and state-of-the-art climbing wall.

The campus is just four miles from Coventry station. Frequent train services run from London Euston, which is only one hour away. For those travelling from further afield, Birmingham International Airport is 10 minutes from Coventry station by rail, with trains departing every 10 minutes.

Visit the conference website for further details www.warwick.ac.uk/slsa. For queries please contact Maebh Harding or Jonathan Garton at slsa@warwick.ac.uk.

Maebh Harding and Jonathan Garton

SLSA EXEC NEWS

SLSA Grants Scheme

At its September 2014 meeting the Executive Committee decided to increase the pot for the Grants Scheme to £25,000 with immediate effect. From next year the maximum award for individual grants will rise to £3000 for both research grants and fieldwork grants.

The scheme was launched in July 1999 with an annual pot of £5000 in order to encourage socio-legal initiatives in practical ways for which other funding sources would not be appropriate. For full details of the scheme, visit www.slsa.ac.uk.

Final reports from three grantholders can be found on pages 6–8.

Competitions

At the same meeting, the Executive Committee also decided to increase funding for the SLSA's annual Seminar Competition to £10,000 and to award bursaries to all students entering the poster competition starting with SLSA 2015.

See page 3 for details of this year's Seminar Competition and page 14 for the call for posters.

Meetings

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on **15 January 2015** at QMUL Lincoln's Inn Fields Campus. SLSA members are welcome to propose items for inclusion on the agenda: email slsa@northumbria.ac.uk secretary, Chris Ashford chris.ashford@northumbria.ac.uk.

Minutes and papers from past meetings are available at www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/executive#meet.

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2014—2015**

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Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in articles in the *Socio-Legal Newsletter* are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the SLSA.

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Newsletter sponsorship

The *Socio-Legal Newsletter* is sponsored by a consortium of law schools interested in promoting socio-legal studies in the UK. If your institution would like to become involved in this initiative, please contact SLSA chair Rosemary Hunter
e rosemary.hunter@qmul.ac.uk.

Newsletter academic sponsors 2013—2016 are: Birkbeck; Cardiff Law School; Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford; University of Exeter; University of Kent; University of Liverpool; the LSE; Newcastle University; Northumbria University Newcastle; University of Nottingham; QMUL; Queen's University Belfast; University of Sheffield; University of Strathclyde; University College London; University of Warwick; University of Westminster; and University of York.

The newsletter is also sponsored by the *Journal of Law and Society*.



MEET YOUR EXEC

Diamond Ashiagbor was co-opted to the Executive Committee in September 2014. She describes her route into socio-legal studies and her new role on the ESRC Grant Assessment Panel.

My undergraduate degree in the late 1980s was very traditional, and therefore light on engagement with socio-legal studies. But it did contain an element of 'law in context', in particular in the study of labour law – which was crucial in sparking my interest in socio-legal approaches. I'm now professor of labour law at SOAS, University of London, and my research places specialist scholarship (on labour and equality law, labour law, trade and development) within a broader interdisciplinary context. I have long worked within the socio-legal tradition, but consolidated this with my doctorate (2002) and monograph (2005) which drew together law, governance and the economics of labour market regulation. This engagement with socio-legal scholarship has also been reflected in my more recent research exploring tensions between social rights and economic freedoms within the EU; my ongoing interest in the intersection between gender and race in labour markets; and my book-length project on *Social Rights and the Market: Embedding trade liberalisation in regional labour law*, which interrogates the social dimension of regional economic integration – how markets may be embedded within, constituted by and ameliorated through labour law and social policy, with a focus on integration within sub-Saharan Africa.

There are many routes into academia and mine was to qualify as a solicitor in a labour law/trade union firm and work as a trade union research officer, before becoming a researcher and then lecturer at Hull University. But I felt I needed more systematic training as a (socio-legal) researcher, so undertook a PhD at the European University Institute in Florence and then a post-doc (having been awarded both the British Academy and the ESRC postdoctoral fellowships). Prior to SOAS, I worked as a lecturer then reader at University College London. At SOAS, I was fortunate to share methodological and disciplinary interests with then colleagues Prabha Kotiswaran and Amanda Perry-Kessaris, with whom I organised a workshop and edited two journal special issues on 'economic sociology of law', which brought together scholars from history, sociology, economics, gender studies and law. I'm also currently a member of the editorial boards of *Feminist Legal Studies* and *Current Legal Problems*.

I have been co-opted onto the SLSA Exec as I've recently been appointed as the socio-legal member of one of the ESRC's three Grant Assessment Panels, a position most recently held by SLSA vice-chair, Anne Barlow. The Grants Assessment Panels assess applications submitted under the 'open date' responsive mode schemes across the full range of the ESRC's activities and make recommendations to the ESRC's Grants Delivery Group, which decides on funding. Following revision of the disciplinary breakdown in summer 2014, socio-legal studies is in Panel B – along with education, linguistics, science and technology studies, social work and sociology.

I look forward to my time on the Exec and to being a link person between the ESRC and the socio-legal community – hopefully providing insights, advice and encouragement about research funding and the work of the ESRC.

The newsletter needs you

News and feature articles are always needed for the newsletter, plus information about books, journals and events. The next deadline is **26 January 2015**.

Contact Marie Selwood [e marieselwood@btinternet.com](mailto:marieselwood@btinternet.com) or [t 01227 770189](tel:01227770189).

SLSA POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE 2015

8–9 January 2015, Birmingham Law School

This year's postgraduate conference is being organised by Birmingham Law School. It is open to both members and non-members of the SLSA and is FREE (including accommodation and subsistence but not travel). Planned sessions include:

- giving a conference paper;
- getting published;
- conference posters;
- managing your supervisor;
- getting through your viva;
- academic job-hunting;
- and research ethics.

Registration is now open. Please visit the website for further details and to download the booking form. Closing date for booking: **10 December 2014**. [w www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/law/events/2015/slsa-pg-conference-2015.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/law/events/2015/slsa-pg-conference-2015.aspx)

Exploring the comparative in socio-legal studies

Building on the successful SLSA conferences – 'Exploring the socio in socio-legal studies' (2010) and 'Exploring the legal in socio-legal studies' (2012) – this third SLSA 'Exploring' conference will be held at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford, from **15–16 December 2014**.

The purpose of the conference is to map out the different questions that may be addressed through comparative socio-legal study, the different approaches that can be used to address them, and the ways in which they can enhance wider scholarship in both socio-legal and comparative legal studies.

The programme is now available and registration is open. Keynote speakers are David Nelken and Fernanda Pirie. Sessions include: theoretical and analytical perspectives; limits to comparison in socio-legal studies; regional sessions on Europe, Asia and the UK; actors in socio-legal comparison; and interpretation in comparative socio-legal studies.

Conference organisers are Fernanda Pirie, Naomi Creutzfeldt and Agnieszka Kubal. Please visit webpage for details: [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/events/one-day-conferences/exploring-the-comparative-in-socio-legal-studies](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/events/one-day-conferences/exploring-the-comparative-in-socio-legal-studies).

Website and social media

The SLSA website contains comprehensive information about the SLSA and is also home to the SLSA Directory. The news section is updated weekly and these updates are circulated to members via a weekly ebulletin. To request the inclusion of a news item and for any queries, contact Marie Selwood [e marieselwood@btinternet.com](mailto:marieselwood@btinternet.com).

You can also follow the SLSA on social media. The SLSA's social media officer is Jen Hendry [e j.hendry@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:j.hendry@leeds.ac.uk).

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SLSA 2014 ANNUAL SEMINAR COMPETITION OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

This year's Seminar Competition is now open. Due to the high quality of entries in recent years, the competition fund has been doubled to £10,000.

The money can be used to support the delivery of an individual seminar or short conference, or a series of events. There are no restrictions on subject matter, provided that applicants can show relevance to the socio-legal community. Applicants must be SLSA members. Applications will not be considered where the amount of support required is less than £500, or where the event is targeted at staff or students of a single institution. The fund has so far supported 11 successful events.

If you are considering an application, please ensure that your proposal accords with the published guidance, downloadable from the SLSA website: www.slsa.ac.uk. If you have any queries, contact Mark O'Brien, mark.obrien@brookes.ac.uk. Closing date: **12 December 2014**.

Reports of four SLSA seminars held this year follow below.

North-east rapid response roundtable: Crimea – European, human rights and public international law perspectives

1 May 2014, Durham Law School

On 1 May 2014, Durham Law School held its Postgraduate Research (PGR) Conference and, as part of the event, hosted the 'North-east rapid response roundtable'. In organising the event, Dr Aoife O'Donoghue and Catherine Turner from Law and Global Justice in Durham successfully applied for and received funding from the SLSA to support this PGR-facing event. This roundtable brought together experts and PGR students from Durham and across the UK to discuss the ongoing issues in Crimea, particularly from a human rights perspective. As events in Crimea evolved, EU, international and human rights law were all relevant to deciphering the legality of Russian involvement, the conduct of referenda on independence and the right to self-determination.

The organisers of the PGR conference were PGR convenors of three of Durham Law School's research centres – the Durham European Law Institute (Oliver Bartlett and Eszter Harsanyi-Belteki), Law and Global Justice (Jane Rooney and Konstantina Tzouvala) and the Human Rights Centre (Rumyana Grozdanova and Daniel Lowe). The organisers held an open call for PGR students to participate in the roundtable discussion on European, human rights and public international law perspectives on the crisis in the Crimea. PhD candidates from Edinburgh, Oxford, Newcastle and Manchester joined in the discussions with Durham PGR candidates and staff members including: Professor Ian Leigh, who discussed his involvement with the Council of Europe regarding Ukraine's human rights obligations; Professor Robert Schütze, who spoke on the subject of the EU's response; Dr Aoife O'Donoghue on the role of international law in setting the terms of negotiation; and Dr Andrés Delgado Casteleiro on the EU's neighbourhood policy. Professor Neil Walker, one of the key speakers at the wider PGR conference, also joined the discussion on law's response to events as they unfolded.

The roundtable was a great opportunity for PGR students and staff to discuss current events in Crimea as they were actually taking place and the discussions have remained relevant to the ongoing crisis in Eastern Ukraine.

Aoife O'Donoghue and Catherine Turner, Durham University

The cultural life of death in punishment

1 September 2014, Senate House, University College London

This one-day seminar explored encountering death in punishment through a range of penal practices and institutions, such as executions, death row, life without parole/whole-life tariff, suicide in prison, ageing/dying in prison and unexplained death in prison/custody. The aim was to facilitate conversations and explore synergies among scholars working in these research areas. The invitation for abstracts elicited a great deal of interest from law, sociology, history, criminology and health-related fields. The one-day, one-stream seminar took place in Senate House and consisted of 11 papers organised around the themes of 'Dying inside', 'Deaths in custody: the happenstance of death in punishment', 'Taking lives: punishment and death', and 'Death and the state'. The seminar was fully booked and the format fostered a conversation that reflected both the comparative dimensions of issues of death in punishment (across different jurisdictions and policy contexts) but also across the sometimes academically compartmentalised instances of capital punishment, deaths in custody and long-term prison sentences.

The seminar discussions exposed the challenge of scale in terms of deaths in prison and the inadequacy of judicial, political and administrative responses in this landscape both in the USA and the UK. The discussion identified the need to explore the management of health and death in prison beyond judicial and penal discourses and emphasised the importance of comparative reflection on the political and philosophical underpinnings of health provision in different jurisdictions. The issue of the meaning of expectation of death during imprisonment was also explored. The discussion inevitably considered this expectation and the 'end of life' arrangements in prison as an aspect of the pains of imprisonment but also engaged in an exploration of the visibility of suffering and the challenges of embodiment (the ailing/frail body, the female body, the young body, the living dead, the non-human body) in the political, conceptual and methodological engagement with the experiences of a range of groups in relation to death in punishment (young people/vulnerable groups under short sentences, long sentences, those on life without possibility of parole and those on death row/executed).

The happenstance of death in punishment/custody within the UK context was reflected upon both in terms of the relative political invisibility and the judicial fragmentation of the investigation, recording and responding to death in punishment. The discussion considered institutional failures leading to deaths in prison as miscarriages of justice and identified the need to reflect on the implications of the relative success of a focus on error as an abolitionist/reformist strategy in the UK, the USA and China in capital punishment. It was suggested that the 'event' of death in punishment (and not merely death as punishment) and its surrounding practices provides an opportunity for witnessing and challenging penal practices and informing/driving abolitionist/reformist strategies. The importance of understanding cultural and political transitions in challenging the philosophical and practical centrality of death in punishment (in states in transition and transformation such as Romania, Libya and China), which was addressed by some of the papers, reminded participants of the importance of embedding comparative reflections of death in punishment/custody more broadly in a thick description of the institutional and historical settings of these practices.

The organisers and participants are keen to pursue these themes in further seminar series and are planning special issues/edited collections around the themes of the seminar.

Lizzie Seal, University of Sussex, and Evi Girling, Keele University

New technologies, developments in the biosciences and the new frontiers of human rights

18 June 2014, Durham University

As well as receiving sponsorship from the SLSA, this symposium was also sponsored by Durham's Institute for Advanced Studies, Durham Global Security Institute, Durham Law School's Centre for Ethics and Law in the Life Sciences and Human Rights Centre.

The aims of the symposium were to bring into dialogue and expand the boundaries of two developing and highly important areas of research: human rights and the biosciences. The event evolved around two key questions: first, how is the human being envisioned within human rights law and practice and how are new technological and scientific advances changing our view of the subject of human rights? Second, how might new ways of imagining who or what human beings are shape (or how might they reshape) present-day human rights law and practice? In other words, drawing the contours of human beings and humanity through the lens of new technological and scientific knowledge, what might human rights look like in the future?

The symposium featured key speakers from UK universities and raised a number of important questions in the intersection of human rights and new technologies. For example, speakers discussed issues of identity and human rights in relation to developing assisted fertilisation techniques. They offered insights into the impact of biosynthetic scaffoldings on our understanding of human-machine interfaces and they questioned the limited view of the human within human rights law and practice in relation to recent developments in biomedicine. Other cases that raised challenging questions were: face-scanning in security work; identity rights and DNA testing; biobanks and individual rights over genetic data; and the implications that all these technologies have on our conceptualisation of the human within human rights law and practice.

The symposium, in an extended format, will form the basis of a special issue. It is our hope that this work will extend ongoing discussions and develop new avenues for research and policy in the area of human rights.

Noa Vaisman, Durham Law School and Anthropology Department

people . . .

Professor TONY PROSSER, professor of public law, University of Bristol, and visiting professor, College of Europe, Bruges, has been elected a fellow of the British Academy.

Dr HANNAH QUIRK has been promoted to senior lecturer at the School of Law, University of Manchester.

SLSA chair **Professor ROSEMARY HUNTER** has moved to QMUL to take up the post of professor of law and socio-legal studies.

SLSA Guidance on Open Access

The SLSA Guidance on Open Access (OA) is available on the SLSA website along with SLSA chair Rosemary Hunter's presentation on OA from our 2014 conference. www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/open-access#SLSA to download her Powerpoint presentation. If you would like a member of the SLSA's OA sub-committee to visit your institution to give a presentation on OA, please contact Rosemary Hunter [e rosemary.hunter@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:rosemary.hunter@qmul.ac.uk).

Oxford Handbook of Roman Law and Society conference

12–15 June 2014, Edinburgh University

The editors of the forthcoming *Oxford Handbook of Roman Law and Society* would like to express their sincere gratitude towards the SLSA for its financial assistance. The grant enabled the editors to hold an author conference at the University of Edinburgh, School of Law. Scholars from across the world who are participating in the project travelled to Edinburgh to present drafts of their chapters for peer review. Without the financial assistance of the SLSA, this would not have been possible.

The proposed *Handbook* will contribute to current scholarship on Roman law in two ways. First, it is intended to survey the landscape of contemporary research and chart directions of future inquiry. It is therefore not principally a manual of doctrine. Its aim, rather, is to bring to bear upon Roman legal study the full range of intellectual resources of contemporary legal history, from comparison to popular constitutionalism, from international private law to law and society. This will be the unique contribution of this volume that will set it apart from others in the field. Second, the volume will bring the study of Roman law into closer alignment, and thus into dialogue, with historical, sociological and anthropological research in law in other periods. For early modern and modern American law, two handbooks now summarise a generation's accomplishments in these more integrated approaches to legal study: Richard Abel (ed), *The Law and Society Reader* (New York University Press 1995) and Austin Sarat (ed), *The Blackwell Companion to Law and Society* (Blackwell 2004). The volume will thus be directed not simply to ancient historians and legal historians already focused on the ancient world, but to historians of all periods interested in law and its complex and multifaceted relationship to society.

The editors are extremely grateful for the SLSA's support of this endeavour. We hope that through the publication of this work we are able to make a small contribution to the ongoing debate about 'law and society'. For details see, www.centreforlegalhistory.ed.ac.uk/past_events/oxford_handbook_of_roman_law_and_society_conference/programme.

Paul du Plessis, Edinburgh University

Journal of Law and Society (Winter 2014)

Socio-legal scholarship in Canada: a review of the field – Harry Arthurs and Annie Bunting

Would John Stuart Mill have regulated pornography? – Clare McGlynn and Ian Ward

Of 'landmark' or 'leading' cases: Salomon's challenge – Ernest Lim

Criminal jury trials in 2030: a law odyssey – Jacqueline Horan and Shelley Maine

Is there an informative effect of law? An experimental test – Jordi Tena-Sanchez, Jose Noguera and Francisco Leon

The lost art of regulated tolerance? – Wim Huisman and Hans Nelen

The Scottish independence referendum 2014 – Tom Mullen

Review article

Catherine Mitchell, *Contract Law and Contract Practice* – Hugh Beale

Book reviews

Alan Paterson, *Final Judgment: The last Law Lords and the Supreme Court* – by Ross Cranston

Emilie Cloatre, *Pills for the Poorest* – Catherine Rhodes

Meredith Rossner, *Just Emotions: Rituals of restorative justice* – Steven Cammiss

SLSA GRANT REPORTS

We hear back from Lisa Vanhala and Rebecca Dudley on their completed research projects. Plus, we publish the first fieldwork grant report, from Alysia Blackham, following last year's expansion of the Grants Scheme.

Extending working life for older workers: an empirical legal analysis of age discrimination laws in the UK

Alysia Blackham, Cambridge University, £1500

As the workforce ages, there is an increasing need to focus on how older workers may be supported in employment and encouraged to remain in the workforce. To advance existing knowledge in this area, my PhD comprised an empirical, mixed-method study of the impact of age discrimination laws on the employment of older workers, employing qualitative, quantitative, doctrinal and comparative research methods.

The research phase funded by an SLSA PhD fieldwork grant involved explanatory organisational case studies of five workplaces that had been identified as 'best practice' employers in relation to older workers. The case studies involved three employers in the UK, including a small company, large company and local council; and two in Finland, including a large company and local council. The case studies examined the impact of age discrimination laws in an organisational context. In particular, they considered the following research questions.

- Why do organisations adopt positive or innovative approaches to the employment of older workers?
- How can law encourage or support positive change at the organisational level?

Each case study comprised semi-structured interviews with human resources directors, management (including middle managers), older workers and, where relevant, unions and members of equity committees, and a review of corporate policies and other documents (including committee minutes, reports and proposals).

Results

The case studies identified five drivers of positive or innovative approaches to the employment of older workers: business factors; organisational leadership; organisational culture; law and legislation; and unions and collective action.

Business factors

The organisations generally saw older workers as being 'good for the business': older workers had important 'know-how' and were likely to remain with the company for a number of years, boosting employee retention. Further, being an 'employer of choice' for older workers gave the organisations beneficial publicity and helped to recruit and retain staff. Finally, in Finland, best practice measures were adopted to reduce sick-leave absences and early retirement due to ill health and their associated financial costs, which were borne by employers under Finnish legislation. Thus, legislation and statutory financial incentives influenced organisational business factors.

Organisational leadership

Proactive measures were more likely to be implemented when driven by organisational leaders, particularly if adopted as a strategic priority for the organisation and allocated appropriate funding.

Organisational culture

A culture of equality was a strong driver of age-aware practices in the case study organisations, either in seeing the workplace as

'really just a big family' in the small or family-owned businesses, or as part of an altruistic societal responsibility in the case of the local authorities.

Law and legislation

Legal provisions had limited impact on organisational practice for the small organisation and the two councils. Indeed, the local authorities were already operating above and beyond what was required by law in this area. However, in the large companies, legal provisions were a significant driver of corporate practice. More particularly, the Finnish large company's programmes were driven by 'money reasons' and financial penalties imposed by legislation, and the UK large company was highly attuned to legislative change. No organisation had experienced age discrimination claims, meaning individual litigation was a minimal driver of organisational practice in these case studies.

Unions

Unions and collective action also played a minimal role in the adoption of best practice. While some organisations consulted unions in the design and implementation of their programmes, no organisation felt that unions had prompted the introduction of such practices. Rather, management initiated these programmes. This contrasted sharply with the unions' perceptions of their role and influence: in the UK large company, the union has 'always had a massive influence on those issues'. In contrast to the company's minimalist view of union influence, the unions saw themselves as occupying a broad role as advocates for good practice, influencers of corporate policy and a check on corporate power. The experiences of these case study organisations indicate that unions are playing a lesser role in age equality matters than might be anticipated (or, at least, that the organisations perceive unions to be playing a lesser role).

Discussion and conclusion

The results of the organisational case studies corroborate the theories and findings in the literature: business factors and organisational culture were key drivers of best practice in relation to older workers. However, organisational leadership proved to be more important than the literature suggested and law had less impact than might have been expected. That said, for the Finnish company and UK large organisation, legislation (and proposed legislation) was a significant driver of best practice. Therefore, law may have differential impacts on different organisational types. Further, Finnish laws and financial incentives, which place financial responsibility on employers for employees' ill health and early retirement, encouraged a more proactive and holistic response by employers to their ageing workforce. A union presence did not appear to have any significant impact in these cases: indeed, the UK small enterprise had no union presence at all. At the same time, cooperation and consultation were seen as important in developing ageing programmes, though not in their initiation.

While there are many drivers of organisational best practice, governments may find it difficult to influence internal organisational cultures and business factors. However, law and government intervention *can* encourage organisational leadership in this area or be used to rebalance workplaces' assessments of business factors (such as through the use of financial incentives or sanctions). Further, it appears that national context and domestic legislative frameworks have a strong association with organisational definitions of compliance and best practice: law does matter. Going forward, government interventions need to recognise the diverse and specific organisational contexts of the workplaces they hope to influence. This may require tailored, context-driven interventions that acknowledge employers' diverse contexts and challenges to better support an ageing workforce.

Domestic abuse and women with no recourse to public funds: where human rights do not reach

Rebecca Dudley, Queen's University Belfast, £1000

Women who experience domestic abuse face even greater risks and more human rights abuses – including violations of fundamental rights to life and not to be tortured – if they are subject to the 'no recourse to public funds' (NRPF) immigration rule. The NRPF rule means that women subject to immigration controls on a variety of visa statuses cannot access benefits and therefore they cannot access safe refuge accommodation or other support. As the law stands, it is their visa status, rather than the grave risk they may face of loss of life or serious harm, that determines their access to safety, support and justice.

The SLSA made a grant of £1000 to defray the costs of research trips for this doctoral research project. From May 2013 to February 2014, I conducted 51 interviews of service providers (statutory and voluntary) in four cities – Belfast, Bradford, Glasgow and Luton, with additional interviews in London and Edinburgh – to explore impacts of insecure immigration status on women who experience domestic abuse. The result is a window into the impact of these rules, particularly NRPF. Some key findings are listed below.

- Some women experiencing domestic abuse who are subject to immigration controls are doing safety planning and risk assessments, calling service providers about what is available if they were to leave. After a risk assessment, they frequently choose to stay with abusers. We do not have reliable estimates of women who are 'trapped'.
- The state actively reinforces a political and social climate that is hostile to migrants, puts up barriers to accessing health care, and now proposes landlord checks on immigration status of tenants. This climate, on balance of probabilities, exacerbates the fear and unwillingness of women subject to immigration control to disclose abuse.
- Women who do leave may find safety and support through some legal duties and concessions, especially the destitute domestic violence rule (for those on spousal visas), a duty of care to support children, assessments on the basis of destitution or additional care needs, and trafficking or successful asylum claims.
- Voluntary agencies make enormous efforts to assist these women with safe accommodation and outreach support, through faith groups, charities and even personal resources.
- Women face risks when presenting to statutory and voluntary service providers: awareness of legal duties is inconsistent across local authorities and among staff members. The women may be sent to other geographic areas and from statutory to voluntary agencies. Their children may be taken into care or they may lose custody of children to the perpetrators of abuse while they seek assistance. Attempts to seek help, even if the women are eligible for assistance, sometimes fail.

Only women on spousal visas are eligible for the destitute domestic violence rule where they may access safety and support while applying to regularise their immigration status. Women and girls on other visas – dependents, students, overstayers, refused asylum seekers etc – are not eligible.

When these women flee domestic violence and are turned away, they face increasing vulnerability to discrimination, abuse and violence. For example, they:

- return to abusive partners;
- are returned back to country of origin unwillingly, perhaps having had children taken into care in the UK;
- become destitute/roofless;
- work in exploitative conditions;

- come into contact with the law and may be in custody;
- seek help from people (usually men) who become new abusers;
- go into prostitution/the sex trade;
- disappear, into what service providers suggest is most likely a precarious combination of the above, including perhaps grave danger to their safety.

Fatalities

Through materials in the public domain (three domestic homicide reviews and one serious case review), I identified four examples of the link between immigration status, with its lack of access to safety and support, and fatalities. In three cases, women with insecure status have been killed and, in one case, the immigration status of the mother is noted to have been a factor in the failure to access services to prevent the death of a child.

Conclusions

The violence experienced by women subject to immigration control spans the different forms of violence against women and girls; from so-called honour-based violence, forced marriage, domestic violence including sexual violence, systematic sexual exploitation in the commercial sex trades, trafficking, harassment, stalking and homicide. These are underpinned by the use of immigration status to reinforce coercive control, a process in which the state provides legal reinforcement through a series of immigration rules that have disproportionately gendered consequences. This violence spans four levels identified by special rapporteurs: the family, community, condoned by the state, and the transnational sphere. The research closes with a number of recommendations including:

- that the UK Home Office should provide guidance and training to local authorities about the implementation of immigration rules in cases of domestic abuse;
- the provision of immediate emergency short-term support to assist these women;
- and that provisions for women on spousal visas to gain access to safety and support while regularising immigration status should be available to women holding other visa types.

The report above is adapted from a briefing for Professor Rashida Manjoo, special rapporteur on violence against women and girls at the UN during her visit to Belfast on 8 April 2014. Workshops and meetings for feedback to practitioners who contributed and colleagues in advocacy roles are planned for autumn and winter around the UK. For further details, please contact Rebecca Dudley rebecca.dudley@ntlworld.com.

SLSA membership benefits

Benefits of SLSA membership include:

- three 16-page newsletters per year;
 - personal profile in the SLSA online directory;
 - discounted SLSA conference fees;
 - weekly e-bulletin;
 - eligibility for grants, competitions and prizes;
 - members' priority in newsletter publications pages;
 - discounted student membership (with first year free);
 - free annual postgraduate conference;
 - student bursaries for SLSA annual conference;
 - discounts on subscriptions to a selection of law journals;
 - 20 per cent discount on Ashgate, Hart, Palgrave Macmillan and Routledge books bought online;
 - special membership category for retired members
- ... and much more. Visit www.slsa.ac.uk for details.

Legal mobilisation and the diffusion of disability rights: the French case

Lisa Vanhala, University College London, £1710

This project, generously funded by the SLSA in 2012–2013, builds on my previous research which looked at the mobilisation of law by disability activists in two common law jurisdictions (Canada and the UK). A case study of France offers a unique lens on how legal mobilisation and rights diffusion dynamics might differ in a civil code system. France's legal tradition has tended to be hostile to conceptualisations of equality that acknowledge differences between individuals or groups. Despite this, French disability rights activists have successfully mobilised the law to introduce new interpretations of disability equality based on recognition of difference. This new understanding of equality, as embedded in a 2005 Disability Equality Law, even includes positive action to ameliorate disadvantage and acknowledge the concept of reasonable accommodation in the workplace, schools and the built environment.

While activists and scholars alike have lauded the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2006 and the European Equal Treatment Framework Directive 2000, we have surprisingly little knowledge of how disability equality rights spread and become real on the ground. The novel theoretical approach I am developing as part of this research examines the impact of both vertical norm diffusion (from the international to the national) and horizontal norm diffusion (the way norms travel across legal systems, across countries and across organisations). With this project I seek to offer greater understanding of the way disability rights language and practice travels (Heyer 2002; Engel and Munger 2003; Vanhala 2011).

The research explores why a new 'rights-based' interpretation of equality emerged in a context where we might least expect it and how it has both shaped, and been shaped by, the mobilisation of law by disability activists. It has found that a disability rights approach, one that in many ways overturns a long history of understanding disability as a 'social solidarity' issue, has emerged very rapidly in France, both among peak organisations and the grassroots. However, the mobilisation of law in the sense of litigation has played a relatively small part in this emergence. Instead, it is increasing use of 'rights talk' among government agencies, leaders of the movement and protestors that is reframing understandings of the concept of disability in France.

The SLSA grant allowed me to undertake three tranches of research: 1) to access documentary sources from the French courts, such as the Conseil d'Etat and the Conseil Constitutionnel, as well as press sources from the archives at Sciences Po Paris; 2) to conduct a number of dialogic interviews with representatives from key disability organisations in France, academic experts on disability in France and grassroots activists; 3) to undertake participant observation at a conference on disability at the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs in Paris and at a disability rights protest in May 2014 in Paris. The SLSA-funded research has contributed to the development of an article, 'The diffusion of disability rights in Europe', which is forthcoming with *Human Rights Quarterly*, and another article focusing specifically on the French case, which is currently in preparation.

References

- Engel, D and Munger, F (2003) *Rights of Inclusion: Law and identity in the life stories of Americans with disabilities*, University of Chicago Press
- Heyer, K (2002) 'The ADA on the road: disability rights in Germany' 27(4) *Law and Social Inquiry* 723–62
- Vanhala, L (2011) *Making Rights a Reality? Disability rights activists and legal mobilization*, Cambridge University Press

Podgòrecki Prize

The International Sociological Association Research Committee on Sociology of Law Jury Committee for the Podgòrecki Prize calls for nominations for the Senior Prize, which will be awarded in 2015 to a socio-legal scholar for their outstanding lifetime contribution to socio-legal scholarship and research.

The 2015 prize jury is composed of Professor Robert Dingwall (UK), Professor Stephan Parmentier (Belgium) and Professor Maria Ines Bergoglio (Argentina). The jury has noted that all previous winners have been men. Although their decision will be based strictly on candidates' merits and the case presented in nominating them, the jury would particularly welcome the opportunity to consider nominations on behalf of some of the outstanding women scholars in the field. Full details of the nomination procedure – deadline **14 February 2015** – can be found at http://rcsl.iscte.pt/rcsl_apodgpr15_call.htm.

Robert Dingwall

Understanding the elements of early placement success for adopted children and their families

The Wales Adoption Cohort Study, funded by the Welsh Government (National Institute for Social Care and Health Research), commenced on 1 October 2014 and will run for two years. The study is being carried out by an interdisciplinary team of researchers at Cardiff University who are working with key adoption providers to gather evidence to promote successful adoption in Wales. It will investigate what factors characterise and underpin early placement success for families who have adopted children in Wales. These include:

- the support families need in the first year after their child(ren) are placed and the extent to which these support needs are met;
- the factors that help families flourish in the first year;
- the impact of decision-making in the court proceedings and administrative processes that preceded placement of children for adoption.

The methodology includes a file study of all children placed by Welsh agencies in a 12-month period, with questionnaires and interviews with a sample of adoptive parents.

The project team is led by Dr Katherine Shelton with Dr Julie Doughty, Professor Sally Holland and Dr Heather Ottaway.

Information is available on the website <http://sites.cardiff.ac.uk/adoptioncohort>. **Julie Doughty**

Café Jurist

The School of Law at the University of Portsmouth is pleased to announce the launch of Café Jurist, a series of six free café-style evening presentations and follow-up discussions hosted at Le Café Parisien in Portsmouth involving at each event an invited speaker presenting on a topic of broad legal importance aimed at students, academics, legal professionals and members of the public. Its café-style format aims to take important legal and political discussion into a community-friendly and egalitarian environment.

The first event, with speaker Professor Dave Cowan, took place on 29 October 2014. The next event is scheduled for 26 November 2014. Future speakers are Barbara Hewson, Sam Bowman, Professor Conor Gearty, Professor Jonathan Wolff and Professor Susan Vinnicombe CBE.

Full details are on the website www.port.ac.uk/school-of-law/school-events/cafe-jurist.html. **Dermot Feenan**

The Community of Restorative Researchers

The Community of Restorative Researchers is a new international, interdisciplinary research network. Its purpose is twofold: first, to create a free and open medium through which those with a research interest in restorative theory and/or practice can connect, share and collaborate with others involved in similar lines of inquiry; second, to connect the worlds of policy and practice, as well as the public sphere, to that of research. The sharing of research expertise across disciplines and nations, as well as with practitioners, policymakers and the public, is essential to achieving the twin goals of maximising the potential benefit from and minimising the risks presented by the use of restorative approaches to crime, harm and conflict. The network also acts as a community of support for its members and aims to contribute towards the understanding, design and delivery of restorative practices across the myriad contexts in which they are, or could be, employed.

Founded in June 2014, the network's database and social media groups consist of almost 300 active members, representing more than 30 countries. Members include undergraduate and postgraduate students, academics, policymakers, facilitators, third-sector workers and criminal justice and education professionals, as well as those with a personal interest in restorative justice. The network's inaugural event will take place in the UK in early to mid-2015 and will involve talks by influential researchers, practitioners and

policymakers in the field. It will be open to members and non-members alike (date and location to be announced soon).

Both a breadth and depth of knowledge are crucial to achieving the overlapping goals of a peaceful society, an inclusive and effective education system, a responsive and nuanced approach to justice, and empowered and resilient communities. This network will provide students and academics with the chance to influence policy and practice directly. For practitioners and policymakers, meanwhile, the network will afford them the opportunity to keep up easily with the latest research findings and to employ an evidence-based approach to their own work.

The community maintains a Facebook page, on which information about policy, research and events can be shared. Most of the discussions, however, take place in the Facebook and LinkedIn groups, through which people working on similar aspects of restorative justice in different corners of the world have been brought into communication. Please use the search term 'community of restorative researchers' on Facebook and LinkedIn to find and join these groups.

To join the members' database, for more information or to make suggestions, please email Ian Marder [e lw08im@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:lw08im@leeds.ac.uk).

**Ian D Marder (founder, Community of Restorative Researchers),
Alishya Dhir and Megan Sharp (network development interns,
Community of Restorative Researchers)**

Judicial images project

This is an initiative supported by the UK AHRC. The aim of the project is to promote dialogue, understanding, future research and collaboration among stakeholders about the production, management and consumption of judicial images. To achieve this we are building a network of experts from across disciplines and fields of practice, including academics, members of the judiciary, journalists, scriptwriters, film-makers, artists, architects and costume-makers.

We will be hosting a range of 'live' events in London; three workshops and a public lecture. The first workshop took place in November 2014, the other events are all in 2015. You can find out more about the dates and themes of the workshops on the network's website.

The website will play a key role in promoting interest in judicial images, encouraging research and image-making, facilitating networking and as a research, teaching and learning resource. These goals will be achieved in a variety of ways.

- As the workshops take place the website will include extracts from the workshops, copies of papers and presentations.
- The site has a number of virtual exhibitions showcasing and exploring judicial visual images. We hope to expand the range of these.
- Another goal is to make the website an essential resource of materials engaging with and relevant to anyone interested in judicial images. This resource will be multidisciplinary.
- Educational and teaching resources will also be made available through the site.
- Last but by no means least, the website offers a platform to draw attention to related events and activities.

We would like to invite you to join our virtual community. If you decide to join us your details will be posted on the 'Network' page. If you have any queries please contact Leslie Moran [e l.moran@bbk.ac.uk](mailto:l.moran@bbk.ac.uk).

For further details visit [w http://judicialimages.org](http://judicialimages.org).

Leslie J Moran and Linda Mulcahy

Constitutional Futures Interdisciplinary Research Group

The Constitutional Futures Interdisciplinary Research Group at Queen's University Belfast (QUB) held a day-long workshop on 10 October 2014 on 'The direction(s) of devolution', with contributions from Aileen McHarg (Strathclyde), James Mitchell (Edinburgh) and Alan Trench (Ulster) and lively engagement with an audience from various academic disciplines, government and the NGO world. This built on an earlier event in July where the particular challenges to the Northern Ireland constitution from the Scottish independence vote provoked an animated debate between academics and representatives from the main political parties. The next event from the group, on 7 November 2014, focused on 'The European dimension(s) of the UK's constitutional futures' and involved contributions by academics from Cambridge, Durham, Edinburgh and Surrey as well as QUB. It examined the layers of constitutional tension and complexity arising out of potential modifications to the constitutional position of European human rights law and EU law. As well as examining the range of possible constitutional futures, the workshop also considered the continuing value and efficacy of rights as a method of protecting individuals from power.

Further events are planned. For more information, contact John Morison at QUB [e j.morison@qub.ac.uk](mailto:j.morison@qub.ac.uk) or visit the group's website at [w www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/isctsj/InterdisciplinaryResearchGroups](http://www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/isctsj/InterdisciplinaryResearchGroups).

John Morison

Children's Rights Judgments Project: call

Professor Helen Stalford (Liverpool) and Professor Kathryn Hollingsworth (Newcastle) welcome proposals from established and early career researchers to participate in a new collaboration between experts from jurisdictions across the world to develop the emerging methodology of judgment (re)writing, adopting a children's rights approach.

Deadline: Friday 30 November 2014. For details, see [w www.liv.ac.uk/law/research/european-childrens-rights-unit/childrens-rights-judgments](http://www.liv.ac.uk/law/research/european-childrens-rights-unit/childrens-rights-judgments).

Kathryn Hollingsworth

Postgraduate bioethics conference 2014

The eighth 'Postgraduate bioethics conference' was hosted by Emma Nottingham and Alexander Chrysanthou of the University of Southampton. The theme of the conference was 'Health law and bioethics at the frontiers of innovation' and was attended by a range of academics from different disciplines, including philosophy, law, sociology, humanities, medicine and biomedical science, at different stages of their careers from masters and doctoral students, members of the medical profession and renowned bioethics professors. There were also international delegates from Belgium, Ireland, the Netherlands and the USA.

Emma and Alex commented: 'We were thrilled to organise the conference this year. We can report that the PGR bioethics community is alive and vibrant!'

In addition to a range of high-quality papers produced by the postgraduate researchers in attendance, a number of excellent keynotes were delivered by experts in the field of bioethics, including Professor Bobbie Farsides, Professor John Harris and Professor John Bryant. Two insightful workshops were run – one led by Professor Jonathan Montgomery on 'Bioethics in practice', while the second focused on 'Publishing in bioethics' and featured a panel made up of journal editors, Professor Ruth Chadwick, Dr Sara Fovargue and Professor David Hughes, chaired by Professor John Coggon. The conference organisers were delighted that both Paul Woodgate from the Wellcome Trust and Phil Greenwood from the Institute of Medical Ethics were able to attend and grateful for Paul's dedicated session on Wellcome Trust funding avenues.

We would like to acknowledge the generous financial support of the Wellcome Trust, the Society of Applied Philosophy, the Analysis Trust and the Southampton Ethics Centre. Emma and Alex would also like to extend their gratitude to the members of the Health Ethics and Law Centre, Southampton Law School, and the director of postgraduate research, John Coggon, for their academic support.

For further information about the 'Postgraduate bioethics conference', see the conference website: www.postgradbioethics.com.

Emma Nottingham and Alexander Chrysanthou

ESRC pilot: urgency grants mechanism

The ESRC has launched a pilot scheme to enable a fast response to urgent or unforeseen events (or the consequences from such an event) and a unique opportunity to undertake research of high scientific importance in response to the event. Proposed research will focus solely on urgent data collection and essential initial analysis. In terms of the event, the emphasis is on the unexpected and unusual nature of the occurrence.

Submission of an urgent research grant proposal is only permitted if relying on other funding opportunities would clearly result in a missed opportunity to undertake economic or social research of high scientific importance or work of economic and societal impact that meets ESRC priorities.

This mechanism is intended to provide: an opportunity for researchers to put forward proposals to undertake economic and social science research to respond rapidly to rare and unforeseen events (no later than four weeks from the first occurrence of the scientific opportunity); an opportunity for researchers to put forward grant proposals to respond quickly to such events when availability of, or access to, data or facilities is required; and grants for up to 24 months' work, to a maximum amount of £200,000.

See website for details www.esrc.ac.uk/funding-and-guidance/funding-opportunities/27006/urgency-grants-mechanism.aspx.

Silence and Confessions: The suspect as the source of evidence (2014) Susan Easton, Palgrave Macmillan £65 280pp

Silence and Confessions examines the treatment of suspects in interrogation and explores issues surrounding the right to silence and confession evidence. Employing a socio-legal approach, it draws from empirical research in the social sciences including social psychology to understand the challenges in obtaining reliable evidence and maintaining the integrity of the interrogation process. Providing insights into the process of interrogation and the experiences of the suspect during interview, this book highlights the dangers facing vulnerable suspects and the problems of identifying and preventing false confessions.

Emotions, Crime and Justice (2014) Susanne Karstedt, Ian Loader, Heather Strang (eds), Hart £20 378pp

This volume brings together leading criminologists and sociologists from across the world in a much needed conversation about how to recalibrate reason and emotion in crime and justice today. The contributions range from the micro-analysis of emotions in violent encounters to the paradoxes and tensions that arise from the emotionalisation of criminal justice in the public sphere. The result is a set of original essays which offer a fresh and timely perspective on problems of crime and justice in contemporary liberal democracies.

Law, Society and Community: Socio-legal essays in honour of Roger Cotterrell (2014) Richard Nobles and David Schiff (eds), Ashgate £75 372pp

This collection, written by leading theorists and researchers from around the world, offers original, perceptive and critical contributions to ideas and theories that have been expounded by Roger Cotterrell over a long and distinguished career. Engaging with many classic issues and theories of the sociology of law, the contributions tackle some of the most significant challenges that modern law faces. The book is organised in three parts: socio-legal themes; methodological and jurisprudential themes; and globalisation, cultural and comparative law themes. Starting with a chapter that re-engages with the need to interpret legal ideas sociologically and ending with one that explores the global significance of modern fascination with the idea of the rule of law, this selection offers important additions to the *oeuvre* of Roger Cotterrell (a list of whose academic writings is included in the book).

The Futures of Legal Education and the Legal Profession (2014) Hilary Sommerlad, Sonia Harris-Short, Steven Vaughan, and Richard Young (eds)

We are currently witnessing an unprecedented transformation in the legal profession and legal education. The Legal Services Act 2007 and the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 have both enabled and necessitated dramatic structural changes to the profession, as well as impacting on its ethos and ethicality. The recent Legal Education and Training Review (LETR) promises similarly dramatic change to the provision of legal education, reflecting the shifting landscape of both the legal professional market and higher education in general. These transformative changes bring both exciting opportunities and challenges with which everyone involved in the law – from university lecturers, to senior partners in leading law firms, to the judiciary – must grapple. This edited collection comprises a selection of papers presented at the second conference of Birmingham Law School's Centre for Professional Legal Education and Research. The aim of the conference, and thus this collection, was to bring together leading academic scholars, senior figures from professional practice, policymakers and representatives of the regulatory authorities to reflect on the key issues arising from this transformative moment. As such, this volume of essays covers diverse ground, from curriculum development to professional theory, enriched and enhanced by the range of backgrounds and perspectives of its contributors.

The Right to Housing (2014) Jessie Hohman, Hart £25 286pp
A human right to housing represents the law's most direct and overt protection of housing and home. Unlike other human rights, through which the home incidentally receives protection and attention, the right to housing raises housing itself to the position of primary importance. However, the meaning, content, scope and even existence of a right to housing raise vexed questions. This book represents a major contribution to the scholarship on an under-studied and ill-defined right. In terms of content, it provides a much needed exploration of the right to housing.

Process and Procedure in EU Administration (2014) Carol Harlow and Richard Rawlings, Hart £35 352pp

This book is about the administrative procedures of the EU, the 'super glue' holding in place the sprawling structures of the EU governance system. Chapters deal with the structures expansively defined, the diverse functions of administrative procedures and the values that underpin them. Also covered is the important procedural function of rights protection through the two community courts and the contribution of the European ombudsman; 'horizontal' procedures, dealing with executive law-making, transparency and the regulation of government contracting; commission enforcement; and 'vertical' or sector-specific studies in significant areas of administration. Separate chapters deal with Europol and the interplay of international and EU institutions in environmental procedure and human rights. The final chapter contains the authors' reflections on proposals for codification and a general evaluation of the role of administrative procedure in the construction of the EU.

Great Debates in Equity and Trusts (2014) Alastair Hudson, Palgrave Macmillan £22.99 280pp

In three parts, this book serves as an introduction to the subject and goes on to cover some of the more advanced concepts. In part one, the sources and nature of equity are discussed, including the nature of trusts law and the unjust enrichment insolvency. Part two covers doctrinal issues within trusts law – certainties, the beneficiary principle and international trusts law, trusteeship and resulting trusts. Finally, the author reviews the overarching themes. The volume is illuminated throughout with discussion of the specific issues which reveal the practical significance of different theoretical positions.

Landmark Cases in Equity (2014) Charles Mitchell and Paul Mitchell (eds), Hart £145 750pp

The range, breadth and social importance of equitable principles, as these affect commercial, domestic and even political matters, are well known. Focusing on the historical development of these principles, this collection helps us to understand them more clearly and also provides insights into the processes of legal change through judicial innovation.

International Child Law 3rd edn (2014) Trevor Buck, Routledge £40.99 478pp

This book examines and discusses the international legal framework and issues relating to children. Analysing both public and private international legal aspects, this cross-disciplinary text promotes an understanding of the ongoing development of child law, children's rights and the protection of the child. Examining the theoretical background to the law and providing a concise and clear overview of the instruments and institutions that protect children internationally, this text then focuses on key themes and issues in child law and children's rights. This new edition has been updated and revised throughout, including expanded material on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as discussion of recent landmark developments on the law relating to recruiting child soldiers as a result of *Lubanga* (2012). The third edition also includes a new case study feature that critically considers key themes and issues in international child law in a real world context.

Cats and the Law: A plain English guide (2014) Angus Nurse and Diane Ryland, Cat Group

This is a summary of the law relating to cats, primarily the Animal Welfare Act 2006 and its introduction of a positive obligation to promote and observe animal welfare in companion animals. The guide also summarises the law on the keeping and care of a cat, issues relating to the sale or theft of cats and damage either caused by or caused to a cat. There is also a section answering some of the most frequent questions people ask about the legal status of cats covering most of what cat owners, breeders and rehoming institutes need to know. The guide is downloadable at www.thecatgroup.org.uk.

Australian Feminist Judgments: Righting and rewriting law (2014) Heather Douglas, Francesca Bartlett, Trish Luker and Rosemary Hunter (eds), Hart £35 382pp

This book brings together feminist academics and lawyers to present an impressive collection of alternative judgments in a series of Australian legal cases. By re-imagining original legal decisions through a feminist lens, the collection explores the possibilities, limits and implications of feminist approaches to legal decision-making. Each case is accompanied by a brief commentary that places it in legal and historical context and explains what the feminist rewriting does differently to the original case. The cases not only cover topics of long-standing interest to feminist scholars – such as family law, sexual offences and discrimination law – but also areas which have had less attention, including indigenous sovereignty, constitutional law, immigration, taxation and environmental law.

Great Debates in Company Law (2014) Lorraine Talbot, Palgrave Macmillan £22.99 208pp

What is the company and is company law important? Are shareholders the company's owners? Can human rights shape the multinational company? This is an engaging introduction to some of the more advanced concepts in company law and corporate governance, providing a cutting edge for students who are looking to gain additional insights with which to excel. Readers are introduced to the many debates surrounding each core area and presented with the key tensions and questions underlying each topic.

The Integration and Protection of Immigrants: Canadian and Scandinavian critiques (2014) Paul Van Aershot (ed), Ashgate £70/£63(website) 252pp

In Scandinavian countries, immigration is a sensitive issue and legislators' approach to it has varied over the years. Whatever policies are adopted in a democratic society, it is clear that the legislation and the authorities have to ensure that the individual rights of immigrants residing in its territory are respected. With Canada as a point of reference, this book draws attention to weaknesses in the regulation and implementation of integration provisions threatening immigrants' individual rights in EU member states Denmark, Finland and Sweden. The study challenges readers to critically review the meaning of rights and the notion of global caring. It takes a critical look at how vulnerable immigrants fare in a largely immigrant nation with a welfare capitalism legacy when compared to three European nations which claim to embrace institutional welfare models.

Journals

The *Law Teacher*, the journal of the Association of Law Teachers, is looking to refresh its database of reviewers. Potential new reviewers are invited to send no more than 200 words indicating their appropriate experience and areas of specialism within legal education. Submissions should be sent to the general editor, Chris Ashford chris.ashford@northumbria.ac.uk.

The editors of the *Journal on the Use of Force and International Law* invite submissions for volume 2(1). Deadline: **30 January 2015**. See www.hartjournals.co.uk/jufil for details.

● **CAFÉ JURIST SERIES**

26 November 2014 and 28 January, 25 February, 25 March and 29 April 2015: *Le Café Parisien, Portsmouth*

Six café-style evening presentations and follow-up discussions. Organised by the Law School, University of Portsmouth. See website www.port.ac.uk/school-of-law/school-events/cafe-jurist.html.

● **CYCLES OF CARE**

28 November 2014: *QMUL, London*

Seminar organised by the ReValuing Care Network in collaboration with the Centre for Law and Society in a Global Context. See website for details www.law.qmul.ac.uk/events/items/141011.html.

● **PREPARING FOR THE UNITARY PATENT PACKAGE**

4 December 2014: *The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, London*

Speakers: The Hon Mr Justice Birss, Jerome Dubrulle, Willem Hoyng, Neil Feinson, Pierre Veron. Organised by the QMUL Centre for Commercial Law Studies. See website for details www.ccls.qmul.ac.uk/events/136817.html.

● **LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE: PUBLIC AND/OR PRIVATE**

3–5 December 2014: *University of Queensland, Brisbane*

Please see website for details www.law.uq.edu.au/lsc.

● **CHANGING SOCIAL RESEARCH: EVOLUTION OR REVOLUTION?**

8 December 2014: *British Library, London*

Conference of the Social Research Association. www.the-sra.org.uk

● **OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN CONSTRUCTION ARBITRATION**

11 December 2014: *Goodenough College, London*

Organised by the QMUL Centre for Commercial Law Studies. Please see website for details of booking and speakers www.ccls.qmul.ac.uk/events/140215.html.

● **REVIEW OF THE BALANCE OF COMPETENCES BETWEEN THE UK AND THE EU: CALL**

Early 2015: *Liverpool European Law Unit, University of Liverpool*

Expressions of interest are invited for this series of events launching in early 2015. Contact [e samantha.currie@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:samantha.currie@liverpool.ac.uk) or [e thomas.horsley@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:thomas.horsley@liverpool.ac.uk).

● **WOMEN: FROM OBJECTS TO BECOMING SUBJECTS — POLITICAL POWER, LEGAL DISCOURSE AND PROFESSIONAL EQUALITY**

16–17 January 2015: *Department of Languages and Civilizations, Université Toulouse 1-Capitole*

Contact [e gabrielle.massol@ut-capitole.fr](mailto:gabrielle.massol@ut-capitole.fr).

● **JUDICIAL IMAGES NETWORK**

4 February and 26 June 2015: *London, venues tbc*

Workshop and lecture respectively. To book a place contact [e law.events@lse.ac.uk](mailto:law.events@lse.ac.uk) or visit [www http://judicialimages.org/events](http://judicialimages.org/events).

● **NEW VOICES IN COMMERCIAL LAW SEMINAR SERIES: MARITIME PIRACY AND ITS LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5 February 2015: *QMUL Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London*

Speakers: Dr Tina Loverdou and Jonathan Moss. Chair: Professor Philip Rawlings. Please see website for details www.ccls.qmul.ac.uk/events/129298.html.

● **HOUSING LAW RESEARCH NETWORK: HOUSING LAW SYMPOSIUM, GRONINGEN, THE NETHERLANDS: CALL**

6 February 2015: *University of Groningen, The Netherlands*

For details contact Julian Sidoli del Ceno [e julian.sidolidelceno@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:julian.sidolidelceno@bcu.ac.uk) or Fanny Cornette [e f.cornette@tudelft.nl](mailto:f.cornette@tudelft.nl) Closing date: 1 January 2015.

● **GRASPING 'EVERYDAY JUSTICE': AN ETHNOGRAPHIC APPROACH**

6–7 February 2015: *Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Cambridge*

Please see website for full details www.crash.cam.ac.uk/events/25658.

● **THE CRIME DROP IN ENGLAND AND WALES**

4 March 2015: *Loughborough University, Department of Social Science*

This is a British Society of Criminology Midland Regional Network seminar. Contact [e a.joyce@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:a.joyce@lboro.ac.uk).

● **NEW VOICES IN COMMERCIAL LAW SEMINAR**

5 March 2015: *QMUL Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London*

Speakers: Dr Miriam Goldby and Dr Meixian Song. Please see website for details www.ccls.qmul.ac.uk/events/131826.html.

● **RADICAL STATISTICS CONFERENCE**

7 March 2015: *Conway Hall, London*

Theme: 'Good data – good governance? Public policy and good data'. See website for details www.radstats.org.uk.

● **TRANSNATIONAL LEGAL EDUCATION: CALL**

9 April 2015: *Glasgow Caledonian University*

Commonwealth Legal Education Association conference. Closing date: late 2014. www.clea-web.com/events-conferences/glasgow-2015

● **THE STATE OF THE UNION: THE SCOTTISH REFERENDUM AND THE FUTURE OF THE UK**

9 April 2015: *Liverpool John Moores University*

Please see website for details www.ljmu.ac.uk/law/128425.htm.

● **THE EVOLUTION AND FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION: THE NEXT 30 YEARS**

19–21 April 2015: *Lancaster Hotel, London*

Organised by the School of International Arbitration at QMUL. www.ccls.qmul.ac.uk/events/126692.html

● **SYNESTHETIC LEGALITIES: SENSORY DIMENSIONS OF LAW AND JURISPRUDENCE: CALL**

29 April–2 May 2015: *University of Hawai'i Hilo, USA*

Contact Sarah Marusek [e marusek@hawaii.edu](mailto:marusek@hawaii.edu). Call closes: 1 December 2014.

● **SOUTHERN LAW PHD CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS**

1 May 2015: *School of Law, University of Portsmouth*

See website www.port.ac.uk/school-of-law/school-events/southern-law-phd-conference-2015.html. Closing date: 5 January 2015.

● **INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON SOCIOLOGY OF LAW: CALL**

5–8 May 2015: *Canaos, Brazil*

Theme: 'Sociology of law on the move: perspectives from Latin America'. See website www.sociologyoflaw2015.com.br/english.

● **LAW AND SOCIETY IN THE 21st CENTURY: CALL**

10 June 2015: *University of Oslo, Norway*

Closing date: 1 February 2015. See website www.jus.uio.no/ikrs/english/research/news-and-events/events/conferences/2015/socio-legal-studies-conference/index.html.

● **TRUST AND EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE IN LAW-MAKING AND LEGAL PROCESS: CALL**

19–20 June 2015: *University of Oxford*

Call closes: 1 December 2014. www.law.ox.ac.uk/event=13322

● **AUSTERITY, GENDER AND HOUSEHOLD FINANCES**

27–28 June 2015: *University of Kent, Canterbury*

See website www.kent.ac.uk/law/news/articles/50years_feminism_at_kent_cfp.html.

● **WORLD SOCIETY OF VICTIMOLOGY SYMPOSIUM**

5–9 July 2015: *Perth, Western Australia*

Call forthcoming. See website for details www.aic.gov.au/events/aic%20upcoming%20events/2015/wsv.html.

● **SUMMER LAW INSTITUTE: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

18 July–15 August 2015: *Beijing, China*

Please see brochure http://summerlawinstitute.com/files/Brochure_2015-30-11-2014.pdf.

● **FROM SODOMY LAWS TO SAME-SEX MARRIAGE**

24–25 September 2015: *Birkbeck, University of London*

See website <http://sodomylawsamesexmarriage.wordpress.com>.

WILLEM WITTEVEEN 1952–2014

Roger Cotterrell pays tribute to his friend and colleague Willem Witteveen, a professor in the law faculty at Tilburg University and member of the upper house of the Dutch legislature, who died recently in tragic circumstances.

In July the news of the shooting down of a Malaysian passenger airliner over Ukraine with the loss of all 298 people on board sent shock waves around the world. Like many people in Britain I woke to hear the news the following morning. It seemed yet another tragic event in relation to which one could only be a helpless bystander, deeply sympathetic about the plight of those who died and those left behind, but also inevitably an outsider, not really able to be a party to all the private grief or intrude on it. Then, later that morning, an email came from a Dutch colleague with the news that among the 196 Dutch passengers who died was our mutual friend and colleague Willem Witteveen, together with his wife and daughter. Suddenly the grief became very personal; I was no longer just a bystander.

Willem's death was picked out specifically in news coverage because he was a national figure in the Netherlands. He was a senator, a member of the First Chamber of the Dutch Parliament (broadly similar to the House of Lords in its main functions). He had been re-elected in 2013 having served previously as a legislator for eight years to 2007 and was spokesperson on justice and security for the centre-left Labour Party group in the First Chamber. He led a very active life as a practical politician. But he did this at the same time as holding a chair of legal theory at Tilburg University, living a no less full academic life as a dedicated teacher and a profound and prolific scholar. His publications list runs to more than 260 items. Just before his death he completed the manuscript of a book (in Dutch) on 'law as work of art', subtitled 'A different philosophy of law' and concerned with 'how philosophers engage our legislators in dialogue'. It confronts contemporary legislative problems with the wisdom of classical political philosophers.

In a way, that kind of project sums up a main reason why his scholarly work is full of socio-legal interest. Witteveen's legal philosophy was engaged with real world issues, and especially moral issues arising in the practical business of regulating society. He cared deeply about the rule of law, justice and socially responsive regulation. He had an enduring theoretical as well as practical concern with the nature and functions of legislation and he wrote interesting essays on the ways in which legislation might act as a tool of communication. He was fascinated by its expressive (and symbolic) as well as instrumental capabilities and I remember hearing his passionate defence of this kind of role for law-making in the face of sceptical arguments from positivist Dutch legal sociologists. Witteveen believed that, however difficult the task might be, legislation had to engage and resonate with popular moral attitudes and, in that way, help to build a more civilised, morally cohesive society. It was not enough to see law as a mere technology in which fundamental moral problems became invisible, marginalised, or dismissed as concerns only of the intellectually naïve.

These passionate commitments made his outlook very different from that of some positivist contemporary legal philosophers. He was fundamentally a theoretically committed jurist concerned with the well-being of law and the legal system and its contribution to the common good. He pioneered the current reassessment of Lon Fuller's work (*Rediscovering Fuller*, co-edited with Wibren van der Burg, 1999, Amsterdam University Press) emphasising its relevance



for lawyers' and regulators' practical tasks. Recently, he focused on the responsibility of jurisprudence to help preserve important legal values in the face of globalisation. In many respects his English-language writings exemplify ways in which a socio-legally oriented jurist should work. Much of his writing, however, is in Dutch and friends have told me that his literary style in that language is outstandingly elegant and beautifully expressive.

He was born in Rotterdam in 1952, the son of an economist later prominent in government and the International Monetary Fund, and he studied and worked at Leiden University law faculty before being appointed to his chair in Tilburg in 1990. Like his father he adhered to the Universal Sufi religion. Sharing many fundamental academic interests, he and I enjoyed spending time together and I had many delightful conversations with him. He was deeply sensitive and thoughtful, warm in his manner; a person with real depth of personality and humanity. Shortly before his death he contributed a chapter to a *Festschrift* produced for me and he was planning to come to London for the launch of the book. I was delighted that I would see him again on that occasion. At the time of writing this, it is almost impossible for me to accept that he will not be there. His son and his father survive him.

***Social and Legal Studies* 23(4)**

Special Issue: New Bearings in the Sociology of Law
Guest Editor: Christopher Thornhill, University of Manchester

- Introduction: new bearings in the sociology of law – Christopher Thornhill and Emiliios Christodoulidis
- Legal revolutions and the sociology of law – Christopher Thornhill
- World state: Brunkhorst's 'cosmopolitan state' and varieties of differentiation – Mathias Albert
- Hauke Brunkhorst, critical theory of legal revolutions: some comments on theory construction – Jürgen Habermas
- Hauke Brunkhorst: reflections on the idea of normative progress – Robert Fine
- The cunning of law: remarks on Brunkhorst's critical theory of legal revolutions – Cristina Lafont
- Reply to critics – Hauke Brunkhorst

SLSA 2015: CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

Warwick Law School, 31 March–2 April 2015

'Socio-legal in culture: the culture of socio-legal'

The call for papers is now open. Abstracts are invited for the streams and themes listed below. Poster ideas are also welcomed. Abstracts should be submitted via the submission system 'EasyChair' <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=slsa2015>. Instructions about how to submit to EasyChair and further details of the calls within each stream and theme are available on the conference website www.warwick.ac.uk/slsa. The deadline for submission is Monday 19 January 2015. If you have any questions about the suitability of your paper, please contact the relevant convenor using the details below.

Streams and convenors

Access to environmental justice

Susan Wolf [e susan.wolf@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:susan.wolf@northumbria.ac.uk)
Sammy Adelman [e s.adelman@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:s.adelman@warwick.ac.uk)

Administrative justice

Richard Kirkham [e r.m.kirkham@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:r.m.kirkham@sheffield.ac.uk)

Art, culture and heritage

Janet Ulph [e janet.ulph@le.ac.uk](mailto:janet.ulph@le.ac.uk)
Charlotte Woodhead [e c.c.woodhead@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:c.c.woodhead@warwick.ac.uk)

Banking and finance

Clare Chambers-Jones [e clare15.jones@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:clare15.jones@uwe.ac.uk)
Mary Young [e mary.young@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:mary.young@uwe.ac.uk)

Challenging ownership: meanings, space and identity

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Francis King [e fking@essex.ac.uk](mailto:fking@essex.ac.uk)
Sarah Blandy [e s.blandy@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:s.blandy@sheffield.ac.uk)

Children's rights

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Nuno Ferreira [e nuno.ferreira@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:nuno.ferreira@liverpool.ac.uk)

Civil procedure and alternatives to litigation, ADR

Masood Ahmed [e masood.ahmed@le.ac.uk](mailto:masood.ahmed@le.ac.uk)

Criminal law and criminal justice

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Kathryn Wright [e kathryn.wright@york.ac.uk](mailto:kathryn.wright@york.ac.uk)

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Chris Ashford [e chris.ashford@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:chris.ashford@northumbria.ac.uk)
Alex Dymock [e dymocka@edgehill.ac.uk](mailto:dymocka@edgehill.ac.uk)

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Sarah Sargent [e sarah.sargent@buckingham.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.sargent@buckingham.ac.uk)

Information technology law and cyberspace

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Mark O'Brien [e mark.obrien@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:mark.obrien@brookes.ac.uk)

Intellectual property

Jasem Tarawneh [e jasem.tarawneh@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:jasem.tarawneh@manchester.ac.uk)

International criminal justice: theory, policy and practice

Anna Marie Brennan [e brennan@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:brennan@liverpool.ac.uk)

Intersectionality

Charlotte Skeet [e c.h.skeet@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:c.h.skeet@sussex.ac.uk)

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Medical law and ethics

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Mental health and mental capacity law

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Race, religion and human rights

Fernne Brennan [e joash@essex.ac.uk](mailto:joash@essex.ac.uk)

Renewable energy and sustainable development

Jona Razzaque [e jona.razzaque@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:jona.razzaque@uwe.ac.uk)

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Sports law

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John O'Leary [e john.oleary@anglia.ac.uk](mailto:john.oleary@anglia.ac.uk)

Ben Livings [e blivings@une.edu.au](mailto:blivings@une.edu.au)

Systems theory thinking, law and society

Tom Webb [e t.webb@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:t.webb@lancaster.ac.uk)

Themes and convenors

Culture clash, peace and world order

Nwudego Nkemakonam Chinwuba [e uchinwuba@unilag.edu.ng](mailto:uchinwuba@unilag.edu.ng)

Exploring legal borderlands: empirical and interdisciplinary approaches

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Petra Mahy [e petra.mahy@csls.ox.ac.uk](mailto:petra.mahy@csls.ox.ac.uk)

International economic law: governing markets in context

Celine Tan, Guiliano Castellano and Fiona Smith
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Law and justice in colonies and 'post'-colonies

Raza Saeed [e raza.saeed@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:raza.saeed@warwick.ac.uk)

Law, cultural heritage and disability: mutual reinforcement or ambivalence?

Abbe Brown [e abbe.brown@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:abbe.brown@abdn.ac.uk)

Law enforcement, regulation and the use, abuse and control of information

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Ashley Savage [e ashley.savage@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:ashley.savage@northumbria.ac.uk)

Law, politics and ideology

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Private international law

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Refugee and asylum law: theory, policy and practice

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Renewing critique in criminal justice

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Rethinking surrogacy laws

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Rhonda Powell [e rhonda.powell@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:rhonda.powell@canterbury.ac.nz)

Transitions from conflict: the role and agency of lawyers

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Posters

Ana Alverti [e a.aliverti@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:a.aliverti@warwick.ac.uk)

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School of Law, University of Warwick

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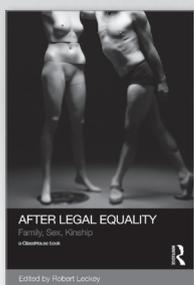


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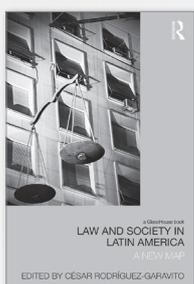


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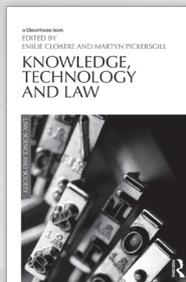


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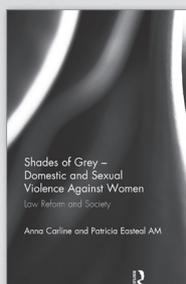


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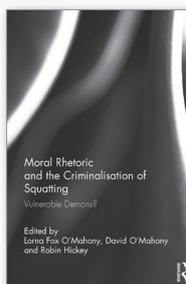


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