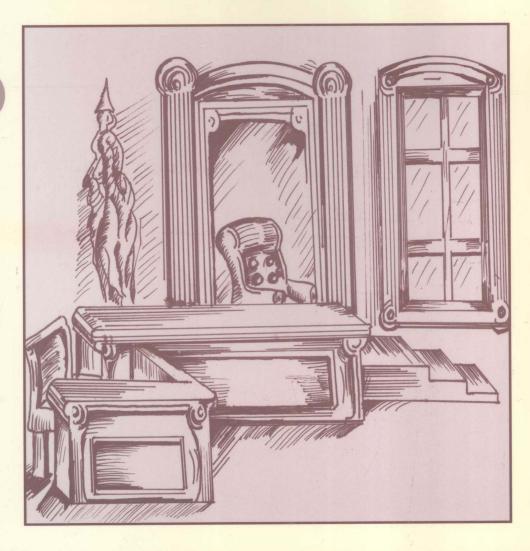
Family Law

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FAMILY LAW

Examples and Explanations

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Preface

This book is designed to assist students in their mastery of the broad range of doctrines examined and discussed in family law courses. Because we recognize that some areas of family law reflect state and local perspectives, we have attempted to highlight differing views while focusing on nationally accepted principles.

The tapestry of family law is complex; however, we have broken the subject into discrete segments and organized them by chapter. Our goal is to provide a student with a balanced, in-depth but less than overwhelming analysis of family law with a straight-forward explanation of doctrine, problems, solutions to the problems, and citations for additional exploration. All of the material is integrated within the confines of specific well-recognized areas of family law study.

This book provides a student with much more than a bare bones outline of family law, a collection of rules, or a blizzard of family law citations. Rather, we have written it with three objectives. First, we have provided straight-forward explanations of existing family law doctrine. Second, we have enhanced a student's potential for learning by providing relevant examples that challenge a student's comprehension of the doctrine. To guide and assist a student in comprehending the doctrine, we have included suggested answers to the problems. Finally, we have provided citations to relevant decisions in those areas where we believed they might stimulate additional research and analysis.

We welcome comments on the book. We cannot promise that we'll respond directly to you, however, we will consider every point made. Our e-mail addresses are:

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Our sincere hope for every reader of this book is that it has helped you learn family law in a friendly, coherent and challenging manner.

Robert E. Oliphant Nancy Ver Steegh

February 2004

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