
CASES AND MATERIALS

FAMILY LAW

CONCISE SIXTH EDITION

by

JUDITH AREEN

Paul Regis Dean Professor of Law
Georgetown University Law Center

MARC SPINDELMAN

Professor of Law
Michael E. Moritz College of Law
The Ohio State University

PHILOMILA TSOUKALA

Associate Professor of Law
Georgetown University Law Center

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For Rich and Jon and entire family.

M.S.

*For my mother, to the memory of my father,
and chosen families everywhere.*

P.T.

*For my family of origin, Maria, Ioannis, Victoria, Θεία Ελένη;
for Thani, who I will always miss, and Alvaro,
my family of destination.*

PREFACE TO THE CONCISE SIXTH EDITION

This is the first edition of the casebook joined by Marc Spindelman and Philomila Tsoukala. As with earlier editions, this book is designed first and foremost for use in the classroom. It is structured to introduce students to the major issues in the field of family law with a particular emphasis on 21st century case law and statutes.

As previous editions have done, this book draws on a variety of sources in order to emphasize the powerful emotional and psychological dynamics of family life that the law must address. Material is provided on what occurred after a number of the included court decisions in order to illustrate the strengths and weaknesses of judicial intervention in family matters. Material from history and the social sciences is also included in order to provide students with a broader perspective on major issues. In addition to appellate opinions, the book includes other sources of law including a custody trial transcript, domestic abuse regulations, sample forms for parenting plans, and key sections from model acts. Finally, the casebook has been enriched with comparative and international materials that help to situate American family law in its global context.

Deletions from excerpted material are marked except when the omitted material consists only of citations or footnotes.

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