

LAW SOCIETY REVIEW

POLICY

The Law & Society Review welcomes articles and research notes by lawyers, social scientists, and other scholars which bear on the relationship between law and the social sciences. The Review is published by the Law and Society Association, a nationwide group, drawn primarily from the legal and social science professions, whose purpose is the stimulation and support of research and teaching on political, social, and economic aspects of the law.

MANUSCRIPTS

All manuscripts should be submitted in duplicate. Text should be double-spaced with ample ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inch) margins. Footnotes should be double-spaced, numbered sequentially, and appended to the end of the article.

Manuscripts and materials should be sent to:

Marc Galanter, Editor Faculty of Law and Jurisprudence John Lord O'Brian Hall State University of New York, Buffalo North Campus Buffalo, New York 14260

MEMBERSHIPS

Members of the Law and Society Association receive the *Review* as a perquisite of membership. Dues in the Association are:

Student (non-voting)	\$ 5.00
Regular	10.00
Joint (husband and wife)	12.00

For the philanthropically inclined, the Association offers the following memberships:

15.00
25.00
100.00

FREQUENCY AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Law & Society Review appears quarterly—Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer. Volume I was published in two issues: November 1966 and June 1967. Volume II consisted of three issues: November 1967, February and May 1968.

Second class postage paid at Denver, Colorado.

Membership in the Association may be obtained by writing Prof. James E. Wallace, Executive Officer, Law and Society Association, University of Denver, College of Law, 200 West 14th Ave., Denver, Colorado 80204.

Subscriptions may be entered on either a calendar year or a volume basis. Future volumes will consist of approximately 640 pages (plus index). Nonmember and institutional rates for a one-year (quarterly publication) subscription are \$10.00 (individual); \$15.00 (institutional); and \$16.00 (outside the U.S.). Special two- and three-year rates are available on request. Single copies may be obtained from the publisher at \$4.00 each; Back issues: Volumes I through VII at \$5.00 each; Volume 7, Number 4 at \$7.50 each.

Business communications should be directed to: Executive Office, Law and Society Association, University of Denver, College of Law, 200 West 14th Ave., Denver, Colorado 80204.

Articles appearing in this journal are abstracted and indexed in ABC POL SCI, HISTORICAL ABSTRACTS and/or AMERICA: HISTORY AND LIFE.

The Law & Society Review is published by the Law and Society Association. © The Law and Society Association, 1974.



VOLUME 8, NUMBER 2 / WINTER 1973

CONTENTS

FROM THE EDITOR	
MARC GALANTER	163
ABOUT THE AUTHORS	•
	165
THE RHODE ISLAND SUPREME COURT: A WELL-INTEGRATED POLITICAL SYSTEM	
EDWARD N. BEISER	167
SOME DETERMINANTS OF THE METHOD OF CASE DISPOSITION: DECISION-MAKING BY PUBLIC DEFENDERS IN LOS ANGELES	
LYNN M. MATHER	187
A COMPARATIVE THEORY OF DISPUTE INSTITUTIONS IN SOCIETY	
RICHARD L. ABEL	217

LAWOSOCIETY

Editor: Marc Galanter

Editorial Secretary: Gloria Aniebo

Bliss Cartwright, Robert Ford, Philip Lochner, Louis Swartz, Kenneth Vines Associate Editors:

Deborah A. Brodnick, Stuart Brody, Donna Fossum, Sarah Zurenda Student Editors:

Production Editor: Joan Sommerfeld

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

Robert R. Alford, University of

Robert R. Alford, University of
Wisconsin
Upendra Baxi, University of Delhi
William Beaney, University of Denver
Jerome Carlin, Berkeley, California
Jerome A. Cohen, Harvard University
John E. Coons, University of
California, Berkeley
Lon Fuller, Harvard University
Joel B. Grossman, University of
Wisconsin
May Cluckman, University of

Max Gluckman. University of

Max Gluckman, University of Manchester
Abraham S. Goldstein, Yale University Charles V. Hamilton, Columbia University

Willard Hurst, University of Wisconsin

Iredell Jenkins, University of Alabama Harry Kalven, University of Chicago Richard Lempert, University of Michigan Stewart Macaulay, University of Wisconsin
Leon Mayhew, University of
California, Davis
Arthur Miller, University of Michigan
John T. Noonan, University of
California, Berkeley
Adam Podgorecki, Warsaw University
Nelson Polsby, University of
California, Berkeley
David M. Trubek, University of
Wisconsin
Lorenzo Zolezzi, Catholic University
of Peru Wisconsin

LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION, OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Richard D. Schwartz, Law and Jurisprudence, State University of New York at Buffalo

VICE-PRESIDENT: Jack Ladinsky, Sociology, University of Wisconsin, Madison SECRETARY: June L. Tapp, Child Psychology and Criminal Justice. University of Minnesota

TREASURER: Charles D. Kelso, Indianapolis Law School

EDITOR, Law & Society Review: Marc Galanter, Law and Jurisprudence, State University of New York at Buffalo

CHAIRMAN OF PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE: Sheldon L. Messinger, Center for the Study of Law and Society, University of California, Berkeley EXECUTIVE OFFICER: James E. Wallace. University of Denver College of Law

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (in addition to officers)

Harry V. Ball, Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara Edgar S. Cahn, Citizens Advocate Center, Washington, D.C. Center, Washington, D.C.
David Caplovitz, Sociology,
Hunter College
Alfred F. Conard, Law School,
University of Michigan
Roger C. Cramton, Cornell Law School
David J. Danelski, Political Science,
Cornell University
Kenneth Dolbeare, Political Science,
University of Washington
Lawrence M. Friedman, School of Law,
Stanford University
Geoffrey C. Hazard, Jr., Yale Law
School
Samuel Krislov, Political Science,

Samuel Krislov, Political Science, University of Minnesota Klaus Koch, Social Relations, Harvard University

Mark S. Massel, Washington, D.C. Laura Nader, Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley

Stuart S. Nagel, University of Illinois,
Urbana
Philippe Nonet, Center for the Study
of Law and Society, University of
California, Berkeley
Victor G. Rosenblum, School of Law,
Northwestern University
H. Laurence Ross, University of Denver
College of Law
Martin Shapiro, Government, Harvard
University
Bits James Simon, Sociology, University University
Rita James Simon, Sociology, University
of Illinois, Urbana
Jerome Skolnick, Center for the Study
of Law and Society, University of
California, Berkeley
Rich Speidel, School of Law, University
of Virginia
Harry P. Stumpf, Political Science,
University of New Mexico

Stuart S. Nagel, University of Illinois.

Stanton Wheeler, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Palo Alto, California