

*The Book that Provides a Complete, Reasonable and Balanced Introduction  
to the Theories, Doctrines and Practice of Family Law!*

# FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF FAMILY LAW

## SECOND EDITION

**Lynn D. Wardle**

Professor of Law  
J. Reuben Clark Law School  
Brigham Young University

**Laurence C. Nolan**

Professor of Law  
Howard University  
School of Law



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**“Family lawyers have a special opportunity to give meaningful service to persons with very poignant needs, excruciating personal pains, bitter distress, and aching sorrows concerning the most tender, important, intangible relations. The family lawyer can soothe injuries, cool anger, repair, or terminate relationships, defend the exploited, protect the vulnerable, and promote family justice.”**

—Preface

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*Fundamental Principles of Family Law* emphasizes the general principles, practical skills, and ethical considerations of substantive and procedural law that regulate family relations in most American states. This casebook takes into account that its readers come from (and practice in) many different states throughout the country—one of many features that help to differentiate this work from others in the field.

Wardle and Nolan use a simple yet comprehensive organizational structure for studying family law that students will find very useful. While this title offers a thorough overview of common principles, prevailing rules, leading decisions, important trends, uniform laws, and federal laws, it also teaches the importance of the local, state-specific rules of family law.

Additionally, *Fundamental Principles of Family Law* stresses the tremendous positive values of families and family relations for individuals and society. The authors strive to increase student awareness of practical and moral issues that may arise in their future practices, as the protection and facilitation of the basic institutions and core relationships of family life are among the most important functions of any legal system.

The consequences of a lawyer’s service in a family law case may affect family members for many years in ways that will influence their lives profoundly. This book prepares students for practicing family law—the highest service-giving tradition of the legal profession.

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