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The chapters of this work grew out of papers that were originally presented at the Symposium on the Jurisprudence of Marriage and Other Adult Intimate Relationships. The papers from that symposium, which convened at Boston College Law School in March 2009, present the scholarly effort of leading professors from Canada, Great Britain, Israel, and Ireland, as well as the United States, and give evidence that not all developments in these areas involve the clash of ignorant armies. These papers consider various relationship forms in light of basic jurisprudential and social principles, and elevate the dialogue about marriage law and law reform to a new, higher level of discourse.

In three sections, The Jurisprudence of Marriage and Other Intimate Relationships focuses on:

- Basic Goods; Basic Concerns About Marital Relationships
- Implications for the Law
- Social, Political and Doctrinal Attributes and Implications

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Continue reading for Table of Contents and author biographies.
# Table of Contents

Preface and Acknowledgments .................................................. v
Foreword by Scott FitzGibbon ................................................... vii

## I. Fundamentals: Basic Goods; Basic Concerns about Marital Relationships

### Ch. 1. Human Dignity: Its Implications for Marriage, the Family and Society ................................................. 3

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### Ch. 2. What Difference Does It Make if Marriage Is a Sacrament? An Historical Approach .................................. 15

Charles Donahue, Jr. is the Paul A. Freund Professor at the Harvard Law School, where he teaches property in the law school and various offerings on Roman, English, and Continental European legal history in both the law school and the college. He has written extensively on the history of marriage law in the West, particularly in the medieval period. His most recent book is Law, Marriage, and Society in the Later Middle Ages: Arguments about Marriage in Five Courts (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007). He is the immediate past president of the American Society for Legal History.

### Ch. 3. Gender Neutrality and the Jurisprudence of Marriage ................................................................. 37

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### Ch. 4. “You Can’t Get There From Here”: A Reply to Proposals to Disestablish Marriage as the Path to Care .... 67

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II. FUNDAMENTALS: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE LAW

Ch. 5. “Just Like Little Dogs”: The Law Should Speak with Veracity and Respect

107 Scott FitzGibbon
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Ch. 6. On the Legal Validation of Sexual Relationships

143 Richard Stith
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Ch. 7. Spousal Rights and Spousal Duties: The Liberal Case for Privileging Marriage

165 Shahar Lifshitz
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Ch. 8. Same-Sex Marriage—From Privacy to Equality: The Failure of the “Equality” Justifications for Same-Sex Marriage

195 Robert John Araujo, S.J.
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III. Social, Political and Doctrinal Attributes and Implications

Ch. 9. The Failure of the Liberal Family

237 Susan Shell
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Ch. 10. The Problem of “Nature” in Family Law

257 Daniel Cere
Daniel Cere is a member of the Faculty of Religious Studies at McGill University where he teaches and writes in the fields of religion, law, human rights, social ethics, gender, sexuality and marriage, and Catholic social thought. Among his recent publications are “Should Same-Sex Marriage Be Accepted” in Crosscurrents: Contemporary Political Issues (5th ed. 2006), and Divorcing Marriage (co-edited with Douglas Farrow, 2005).

Ch. 11. Cousin Marriage

291 The Rt. Hon the Baroness (Ruth) Deech
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Ch. 12. Sisterly Love: The Importance of Explicitly Assumed Commitment in the Legal Recognition of Personal Relationships

305 Oran Doyle