

# Selected Labor & Employment Law Capsule Reviews

*compiled by* the Book Review/Casenote Editor

SUSAN POTTER NORTON ET AL., *EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION: MODEL JURY INSTRUCTIONS* (American Bar Association 2d ed., Jan. 2006, 350 pp., \$115.00)

From the publisher:

This addition to the Model Jury Instructions series provides clear and balanced instructions for presentation to juries in employment litigation. These models accurately and impartially present the elements and critical definitions of employment law in language that is understandable and familiar to the average juror. The book includes a CD-ROM of the jury instructions that allows for easy adaptation to particular cases or points.

W. R. BÖHNING, *LABOUR RIGHTS IN CRISIS: MEASURING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WORLD OF WORK* (Palgrave Macmillan, Apr. 2006, 264 pp., \$85.00)

From the publisher:

Innovatively linking actual implementation to ratification of International Labour Office (ILO) Core Conventions, the author develops a new method and uses unexploited data from the ILO's supervisory system to rate the achievement of basic human rights in the world of work—freedom of association and freedom from forced labour, child labour and discrimination—for 159 countries during the period 1985–2003. It will appeal to the human and labour rights communities as well as to social scientists interested in indicators or international relations.

MARK FREEDLAND, *THE PERSONAL EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT* (Oxford University Press, Feb. 2006, 608 pp., \$35.00).

From the publisher:

This book is an analytical study of the current English law of traditional contracts of employment and of other personal employment contracts. Concentrating on the common law basis of individual employment law, it takes full account of relevant British and European Community legislation up to and including the Employment Act [of] 2002.

THREADS OF LABOUR: GARMENT INDUSTRY SUPPLY CHAINS FROM THE WORKERS' PERSPECTIVE (Angela Hale & Jane Wills eds., Blackwell Publishing Professional, Dec. 2005, 288 pp., \$39.95).

From the publisher:

*Threads of Labour* draws on a rich body of action research gathered by organisations supporting women workers in ten different garment-producing locations in Asia, Europe, and Mexico. This research provides important new empirical information about the global garment industry and also creates a blueprint for conducting worker-oriented action research in order to better understand and resist the negative impact of globalization on labour. This book combines bottom-up research conducted by women workers' organisations with the latest academic research and debate. It seeks to ensure that workers' voices reach those who are trying to reconfigure global capitalism in more humane directions. Finally, it explores the ways in which workers might begin to develop new forms of organization that are more suited to securing gains in the global garment industry than those strategies deployed in the past.

ROSEMARY OWENS & JOELLEN RILEY, *THE LAW OF WORK* (Oxford University Press, Apr. 2006, 400 pp., \$55.00)

From the publisher:

*The Law of Work* is a re-conceptualization of the subject matter of the Australian law of workplace relations according to its fundamental principles. By identifying its subject matter as the "law of work" it signals its concerns as broader than those encompassed in the traditional conception of labour and industrial relations law.

FRED S. STEINGOLD, *THE EMPLOYER'S LEGAL HANDBOOK* (Amy Delpo ed., Nolo 7th ed., May 2005, 496 pp., \$39.99).

From the publisher:

Using minimal jargon, this do-it-yourself guide for employers explains how to comply with workplace laws and regulations and avoid lawsuits. It provides legal guidelines relevant when conducting interviews, writing employee manuals, paying overtime, and terminating employment. It also covers OSHA requirements and laws prohibiting harassment and discrimination. The seventh edition has added chapters on new federal overtime rules and privacy in the workplace.

SUSAN THISTLE, *FROM MARRIAGE TO THE MARKET: THE TRANSFORMATION OF WOMEN'S LIVES AND WORK* (University of California Press, May 2006, 288 pp., \$19.95).

From the publisher:

Susan Thistle brings together diverse issues and statistics—the plight of single mothers; the time crunch faced by many parents; the problem of housework; patterns of work, employment and marriage; and much more—in a rich and engaging analysis that draws from history, economics, political science, sociology, government documents, and census data to put gender at the center of the social and economic changes of the past decades. With its broad historical and theoretical sweep, clear charts and tables, and accessible writing, *From Marriage to the Market* will be an essential resource for understanding the tumultuous changes currently transforming American society.

KURT WETZEL, *LABOUR RELATIONS AND HEALTH REFORM: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF FIVE JURISDICTIONS* (Palgrave Macmillan, Mar. 2006, 224 pp., \$80.00).

From the publisher:

Over the past twenty-five years, governments that operate publicly-funded health care systems have endeavored to modernize service delivery and to control health spending. This has occasioned high profile efforts to reform and restructure previously stable health systems. Health organizations are

typically complex, labour intensive and unionized. Health reform can have enormous consequences for workers and their unions. Governments' ideologies determine the nature of reform initiatives. This book examines the experiences of five jurisdictions—Great Britain, New Zealand, New South Wales, Saskatchewan and Alberta.