



Legal Services Regulation at the Crossroads

Justitia's Legions

Noel Semple, Assistant Professor, University of Windsor Faculty of Law, Canada

Through a comparative study of English-speaking jurisdictions, this book seeks to illuminate the policy choices involved in legal services regulation as well as the important consequences of those choices. Regulation can protect the interests of clients and the public, and reinforce the rule of law. On the other hand, legal services regulation can also undermine access to justice and suppress innovation, while failing to accomplish any of its lofty ambitions. The book seeks a path forward to increasing regulation's benefits and reducing its burdens for clients and for the public. It proposes a client-centric approach to enhance access to justice and service quality, while revitalizing legal professionalism, self-regulation, and independence.

'... Professor Semple has become the go-to expert on legal regulation. ... While scholarly, *Legal Services Regulation at the Crossroads* would be good reading for anyone interested in knowing more about self-regulation and the legal profession. It should likely be on the shelf of academic and law society libraries.'

– Canadian Law Library Review

'Noel Semple's outstanding book *Legal Services Regulation at the Crossroads: Justitia's Legions* is an exceptional overview, critique, and reevaluation of lawyer regulation in the common law world. He clearly and concisely delineates the widening regulatory gulf between North American jurisdictions (which he calls "professionalist-independent") and the rest of the common law world (the "competitive-consumerist" approach). Semple compares these approaches and presents a fair and persuasive defense of the American and Canadian model, as well as some sensible suggestions for possible improvements. If you seek to understand the current state of lawyer regulation in the common law world, you have found your guide.'

– Benjamin Barton, The University of Tennessee, US

'I have been delighted to have been able to observe, and discuss with, Professor Noel Semple the evolution of this outstanding book over the past three years. In my view, there is no comparable treatment of the regulation of legal services in North America that is as comprehensive in its substantive coverage, broadly interdisciplinary in the perspectives it engages, and original in the insights it offers.'

– Extract from the foreword by Michael Trebilcock, University of Toronto, Canada

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