# The ISFL Family Letter

March 2002

Published by the International Society of Family Law by Prof. Margaret F. Brinig, Editor, the Family Letter: Newsletter of the ISFL, College of Law, University of Iowa, Boyd Law Building, Iowa City, IA 52245 (319) 335-6811 FAX (319) 335-9098

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### MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT:

The 11th World Conference of the International Society of Family Law, scheduled for Copenhagen, Denmark and Oslo, Norway, August 2-7, 2002, is bristling with excitement. While you will read further details about the conference elsewhere in this Newsletter, I want to begin my president's message by encouraging every member who can possibly attend to register and come to this wonderful conference. With a focus on human rights and family law, participants will hear from some of the leading world authorities about family law, international law, human rights, and comparative law. As human rights continues to develop as an area of increasing importance for scholars and practitioners of family law, and of increasing relevance to governments and their agencies, this conference should have profound intellectual, pedagogical as well as practical significance. The locations of the conference (Copenhagen and Oslo) are extremely appealing and the Sunday night ferry ride from Copenhagen to Oslo promises to be an unforgettable highlight. understand that sailing into the Oslo fjord in the early morning is a sight never to be forgotten. We are extremely grateful for the tremendous work that has been done by the co-conveners, Peter Lodrup of Oslo and Linda Nielsen of Copenhagen. Please visit the Conference website for further information at http://www.jus.uio.no/ifp/isfl/.

We have several other regional conferences on the horizon for the near future. In 2003 we will convene a regional conference in the United States. We are also developing contacts and ties with South American family law scholars and scholarly and professional organizations, there is the possibility for our members to be invited to participate in a conference in Brazil. In 2003 or 2004 we are hoping to host a conference in the Mediterranean region. We may also be able to arrange a conference in Asia, perhaps in China. In the summer of 2005 the next world conference will convene in Salt Lake City, Utah (home of the 2002 Winter Olympics). In the fall or winter of 2005, Paul Vlaardingerbroek is

looking to possibly convene a regional conference in conjunction with the 100 year anniversary of the enactment of Dutch laws on child protection.

In October, 2001, I was privileged to represent the Society and to present a paper at an excellent, well-organized and very dynamic conference of the IBDFAM in Ouro Preto, Brazil. We hope that even more members of that excellent family law organization will find it of value to become active members of the ISFL. Our membership in Latin America is small but their interest in family law is great and their potential to contribute much to contemporary comparative family law discussions is great.

In order to save money and avoid further increases in the membership dues, with the outstanding vision and skill of our Newsletter editor, Margaret Brinig, we are pleased to offer the Newsletter now in electronic form. The Newsletter will be posted on the internet and postcards notifying members of its publication will be sent. Also, electronic versions of the Newsletter will be sent to all persons who provide a current e-mail address to the Treasurer, Paul Vlaardingerbroek, or the Newsletter Editor, Professor Brinig. For persons who have difficulty accessing the newsletter via the internet or e-mail, printed copies will still be sent by postal mail by Professor Brinig upon request.

Mr. Richard Hudson, whose publishing company, Jordans, publishes the International Survey for us every year, has generously agreed to provide 30 copies of the International Survey to libraries at law schools that would not be able to purchase the International Survey. We invite members to recommend law schools in third world countries to receive this gratuitous from Jordans Publishing by sending contact information identifying the law school and the law library mailing address to Secretary General, Gillian Douglas. The easiest way Gillian e-mail contact is bv douglasg@cardiff.ac.uk.

The Hague conference on Private International Law is inviting comments and observation on their consultation on transfrontier access/contact. The closing date for receipt of those comments is 27 March 2002. Secretary-General Gillian Douglas can provide contact information.

Communication to and among the members of the Society is critical for the Society to achieve its We will soon be publishing another purposes. printed version of the directory of members of the Society. We invite persons to submit updates, corrections and further information about their mailing address, e-mail address, telephone and fax contact information to the Treasurer, Paul Vlaardingerbroek. His e-mail address is: p.vlaardingerbroek@kub.nl.

We express our tremendous gratitude to the many members of the society who devote their time to working on behalf of the society to plan and propose regional conferences, to publish articles summarizing developments in family law in their home countries for the International Survey, and who tend to the business of the Society. The Executive Council and vice presidents are extremely faithful, and the officers of the society are diligent, dependable and extremely competent in developing the interest of the International Society of Family Law.

It is now time to invite members of the Society to nominate persons to serve as officers and on the Executive Council of the Society. Further information about the nomination process is contained in this Newsletter. Nominations may be sent to Secretary-General Douglas. I would encourage any and all interested persons to not be unduly modest or reticent about serving. Do not hesitate to ask co-members to nominate you if you think you would be interested in serving and if you would have the time to render service to the Society.

Finally, how can the Society better serve your needs? What other programs, publications, and policies would be helpful to you? Please contact me at <a href="wardlel@lawgate.byu.edu">wardlel@lawgate.byu.edu</a>, or communicate your suggestions to any other officer or Council Member of the Society.

Lynn D. Wardle,
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### REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL:

The Executive Council met in Paris on 26 January 2002 for its latest meeting. Items on the agenda included, of course, the forthcoming World Conference. The Council heard reports from the Convenors, Professor Linda Nielsen and Professor Peter Lodrup on the progress of the arrangements. The organisation of the conference is proceeding extremely well, and the conference promises to be as interesting and exciting as previous events have proved to be.

The Council also discussed ideas for further regional conferences; it is hoped that a European conference will take place in 2003, hosted by Vice\_President, Miquel Martin Casals, and a further Mediterranean conference is scheduled for 2004, to be hosted by Council member, Maria Donata Panforti. The Council is also pursuing links with colleagues in South America and China to explore the possibility of further regional meetings in due course.

At its Bath meeting in September 2001, the Council discussed ways of encouraging family law scholars to join the Society, and means by which law schools unable to afford the cost of buying the Society's International Survey could have access to the excellent range of learning and information this contains. Many Society members will recall that Jordans, the publishers of the Survey, contributed sponsorship to the Society's last World Conference in Brisbane. The Council was delighted to learn that they have also agreed to sponsor delivery of the Survey to a number of institutions otherwise unable to buy it. Copies of the 2002 Survey will therefore be sent free of charge to 30 university law libraries later this year. The Council is most pleased to record its gratitude to Mr Richard Hudson and to Jordans, for this generous support of the Society's activities.

Elections to the Executive Council and to office in the Society. Please take note of the following:

Election to the Council \_ A member must be nominated by *two* members of the Society and the nominee must signify his or her approval of the nomination in a letter signed by the nominating members and received by me **not later than 6**<sup>th</sup> **June 2002**.

Election to Office \_ Any *five* members of the Society may nominate a member to be an officer

if the name of such nominee signifying his or her approval to the nomination is contained in a letter signed by the nominating members and received by me not later than 6<sup>th</sup> June 2002.

Candidates for election to Council or to office have the right to submit a statement of not more than 200 words, to be included with the ballots.

Further information about the election process may be found on the Society's website, and will be sent out with the ballot papers in due course.

I look forward to receiving your nominations, and to seeing many of you in Scandinavia this August.

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Paul Vlaardingerbroek, Treasurer Prof.mr. Paul Vlaardingerbroek Den Hooiberg 17 4891 NM Rijsbergen THE NETHERLANDS Tel: (76) 5962381 Fax: (76) 5964545. vlaardingerbroe@wish.net

### REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

Dear colleagues,

Herewith I send you the final result form the financial year 2001. As you can see we did not have a good financial result because of the decline of dues from our members and higher costs for the International Survey and the Family Letter.

Since 1st January 2002, the subscription rates have increased and we now also have the possibility to pay for 5 years. Many members choose this opportunity, which will save the society costs. I hope the Society is able to keep the amount of 33000 Euro as a minimum amount for 'dark' years. If you change your address or if you want to be deleted as member, please send me a message as soon as possible. If you know interested persons who want to become a member, I can send you the new subscription form.

Best regards, Paul

**Total account December 31, 2000** 

## Report of The International Survey Editor:

The 2002 Edition of the International Survey of Family Law is now full. It is expected that publication will be in June or July 2002. As usual the Survey contains an Annual Review of International Family Law and this is followed by articles on the following jurisdictions: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, England and Wales, Ethiopia, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Namibia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Portugal, Russia, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Uganda, United States and Zimbabwe.

As always the editor is glad to hear from anyone with suggestions for inclusion of articles in the Survey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>We had a negative result because of the decline of the share rates (especially since 11th September 2001) in the year 2001.

Dr. Andrew Bainham Christ's College Cambridge CB2 3BU UK

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### **UPCOMING CONFERENCES & CALLS FOR PAPERS:**

# Association of American Law Schools, Family Law Section Website

At the Association's January meeting, the Section decided to launch a Website that would be available for the inreasing number of academics using the internet. A very preliminary version is now available at

http://www.uiowa.edu/~mfblaw/aals.html.
Section members attending the meeting provided some material that's included on the website. The Web Supervisor, Margaret Brinig, would be happy to include links, class materials, exams you don't mind being generally available, or anything else you'd like to supply. You may write her at <a href="margaret-brinig@uiowa.edu">margaret-brinig@uiowa.edu</a>, and may attach electronic versions of any submissions.

Whittier Law School is proud to announce the creation of the Whittier Journal of Child and Family Advocacy (WJCFA) and to invite Section members to submit articles for the inaugural issue, scheduled for publication in June 2002. The WJCFA will publish scholarly works on a wide variety of topics related to children and families, including abuse and neglect, delinquency, child custody and support, nontraditional families, health care and bioethics issues, education law and others. By focusing on these critical issues, the WJCFA will provide a new forum for legal scholars, advocates and jurists to exchange ideas and propose solutions to the challenging problems faced by children and families. Essays, book reviews and interdisciplinary pieces, as well as more traditional articles, are encouraged. If you are interested in submitting an article for review, please submit a typed manuscript in one of the following ways:

Mail Submissions:

Whittier Law School Children's Rights Clinic Whittier Journal of Child and Family Advocacy Attn: Theresa Owens, Editor-in-Chief 3333 Harbor Blvd. Costa Mesa, CA 92626

> Electronic Submissions: Sixerzgirl@aol.com (In Word or WordPerfect format)

If you have any questions about the Journal or submitting an article, please feel free to contact the Editor-in-Chief of the WJCFA, Theresa Owens, at 714-444-4141 x313 or Professor Deborah L. Forman, Director, Whittier Law School Center for Children's Rights, at 714-444-4141 x238.

Family Life and Human Rights 2nd -7th August 2002 Copenhagen/Oslo

# <a href="http://www.jus.uio.no/ifp/isfl/index.html">http://www.jus.uio.no/ifp/isfl/index.html</a>

#### About the Conference

The 11th World Conference of the International Society of Family Law will be held from 2nd to 7th August 2002, at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark (2nd - 4th August), and at the University of Oslo, Norway (5th - 7th August).

On behalf of the organising committees in Copenhagen and Oslo we have the pleasure of inviting you to participate at the conference as a delegate or a speaker. The theme Family Life and Human Rights will give the participants the opportunity to discuss the interrelationship between two of the main institutions in the modern world, that is the family and its legal framework and the Human Rights standards in relation to all aspects of family life

It will be a conference where legal scholars, judges, lawyers and policy-makers meet and exchange views at both an academic and a practical level concerning these basic issues. We hope that it will provide inspiration to continue work for a better world through respect for the family and the individual.

We are sure that the beauty of these two Scandinavian capitals will provide a perfect setting for the conference as well as the social activities which will be offered to all participants and accompanying persons.

We welcome you to Copenhagen and Oslo!

Professor Linda Nielsen Co-convenor Professor Peter Lødrup Co-convenor

# Family Life and Human Rights

### Invitation

It is our pleasure to invite you to participate as a delegate or presenter at the International Society of Family Law 11th World Conference to be held from 2nd to 7th August 2002, at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark (2nd - 4th August), and at the University of Oslo, Norway (5th - 7th August). The aim of the conference is to generate

The aim of the conference is to generate thoughtprovoking presentations and discussions on issues that will shape the future of family law.

To complement the conference programme, social activities will provide the opportunity to network with colleagues and enjoy Copenhagen's and Oslo's hospitality and the idyllic surrounds. We look forward to welcoming you to Copenhagen and Oslo.

#### Topic

The overall theme of the 2002 conference is the challenge of Human Rights to Legal Problems of Family Life.

The aim is to provide an international forum to discuss:

The Significance of International Conventions regarding Family Life

Family Life and State Intervention
The Right to Family Life - Family Reunification
Human Rights and the Equality within the Family
Children's Rights - International Conventions
Family Rights and Biotechnology

Interdisciplinary approaches are encouraged. The sub-topics indicate preferred subject matter but they are by no means exhaustive.

The conference will also include a poster session, which means that you are welcome to forward proposals for posters.

### Conference fee

450  $\$  before 1 April 2002 for members and 500  $\$  after 1 April

500 \$ before 1 April 2002 for non-members and 550 \$ after 1 April

250 \$ for accompanying persons before 1 April and 300 \$ after 1 April

The fee will include lunches all 4 conference days; opening reception in Copenhagen Friday 2nd August, dinner and Tivoli with dance Saturday 3rd August, boat ticket to Oslo Sunday 4th August with cabin, dinner and breakfast, bus sightseeing on Monday 5th August, dinner Tuesday 6th August and reception in Oslo City Hall Wednesday 7th August.

Hotels range from 70\$ to 150\$ pr. night. Youth hostels will also be a possibility.

# Important dates

1st May 2002 - Deadline for presenters and participants to register

2nd-7th August 2002 - International Society of Family Law 11th Word Conference

Accepted presentations will be published as abstracts in the conference programme.

#### Conference venue

Copenhagen and Oslo present beautiful surroundings and the weather during August should be mild and sunny. International delegates may wish to combine their days in Scandinavia with a pre- and post-conference holiday. For further information about the conference sites, hotels, pre- and post conference tours, please contact the

DIS Congress Service Herlev Ringvej 2C DK-2730 Herlev

Telephone: +45 44 92 44 92 Fax: +45 44 92 50 50

E-mail: pze@discongress.com

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Conference co-convenors

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# RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE BY ISFL MEMBERS:

(Compiled by Associate Editor Laurence C. Nolan, Professor of Law, Howard University School of Law, 2900 Van Ness St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008,

tel. (202)806-8064, fax - 8428 lnolan@law.howard.edu)

# 1. Family Law in General: History; Theories; Overviews

M. ALINÈIÆ, A. BAKRIÆ\_ABRAMOVIÆ, D. HRABAR, D. JAKOVAC\_LOZIÆ, A. KORAÆ, OBITELJSKO PRAVO (FAMILY LAW)(Croatian Family Law, With Comparisons With European Law, Conventions etc.,) ed. Narodne novine, Zagreb, 2001, 510 pp.

Brian Bix, "How to Plot Love on an Indifference Curve (A Review of From Partners to Parents: The Second Revolution in Family Law by June Carbone)," 99 Michigan Law Review 1439 (2001).

Brian Bix, "Reflections on the Nature of Marriage," in REVITALIZING the INSTITUTION of MARRIAGE for the TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, (eds., Hawkins, Wardle & Coolidge)(Praeger Publishers 2002) pp. 111-119.

Margaret F. Brinig, "Community Involvement and Its Limits in Marriage and Families," in REVITALIZING the INSTITUTION of MARRIAGE for the TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, (eds., Hawkins, Wardle & Coolidge)(Praeger Publishers 2002) pp. 15-27.

John Crouch, "Current Developments in International Family Law", in 2002 Family Law Update (Ronald Brown and Laura Morgan, editors), Aspen Law & Business Publications, 2001.

Ruth Deech, "Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) and the Family: Risk or Revivial?", in REVITALIZING the INSTITUTION of MARRIAGE for the TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, (eds., Hawkins, Wardle & Coolidge)(Praeger Publishers 2002) pp. 133-143.

Edith Dejonghe and Isabelle Lammerant, "Les candidats ré fugiés mineurs non accompagnés de lege lata et de lege ferenda" (Unaccompanied Minor Asylum Seekers in Positive Law and in View of Law Reform) in Journal des tribunaux (Bruxelles), 1998, pp. 231-236.

Rainer Frank, "Adoption by Unmarried Cohabitants, Same-Sex Couples, and Single Persons in Europe," in REVITALIZING the INSTITUTION of MARRIAGE for the TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY,

(eds., Hawkins, Wardle & Coolidge)(Praeger Publishers 2002) pp. 121-132.

Olga Cvejic Jancic, "POSREDOVANJE U PORODICNIM SPOROVIMA" ("MEDIATION IN FAMILY LITIGATIONS")(published in: Juridical Life No 9/2000).

*Isabelle Lammerant*, "L'adoption et les droits de l'homme en droit comparé (Adoption and Human Rights in Comparative Law)," Bruylant, Bruxelles, 2001, pp.763.

Isabelle Lammerant, "Les candidats ré fugiés mineurs non accompagnés," (Unaccompanied Minor Asylum Seekers), in "Le familier et l'étranger. Dialectiques de l'accueil et du rejet," (The familiar and the Foreign. Dialectics of Welcome and Rejection), C. Presvelou and R. Steichen Bruylant, eds., Bruxelles, 1998, pp. 231-236.

David D. Meyer, "What Constitutional Law Can Learn From the ALI Principles of Family Dissolution," 2001 Brigham Young University Law Review 1075.

Laurence C. Nolan, "The Limits of the Law and Raising a Sentiment for Marriage," in REVITALIZING the INSTITUTION of MARRIAGE for the TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, (eds., Hawkins, Wardle & Coolidge)(Praeger Publishers 2002) pp. 185-194.

Allen M. Parkman, "Good Incentives Lead to Good Marriages," in REVITALIZING the INSTITUTION of MARRIAGE for the TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, (eds., Hawkins, Wardle & Coolidge)(Praeger Publishers 2002) pp. 69-77.

Carl E. Schneider, "Fixing the Family: Legal Acts and Cultural Admonitions," in REVITALIZING the INSTITUTION of MARRIAGE for the TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, (eds., Hawkins, Wardle & Coolidge)(Praeger Publishers 2002) pp. 177-183.

Katherine Shaw Spaht, "Why Covenant Marriage May Prove Effective as a Response to the Culture of Divorce," in REVITALIZING the INSTITUTION of MARRIAGE for the TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, (eds., Hawkins, Wardle & Coolidge)(Praeger Publishers 2002) pp. 69-67.

Lynn D. Wardle, "Institutionalizing Marriage Reforms Through Federalism," in REVITALIZING the INSTITUTION of MARRIAGE for the

TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, (eds., Hawkins, Wardle & Coolidge)(Praeger Publishers 2002) pp. 167-175.

# 2. Before/Creation of Spousal or Quasi-Spousal Relations

*Ira Mark Ellman*, ""Contract Thinking" Was Marvin's Fatal Flaw," 76 Notre Dame Law Review 1365 (2001).

Olga Cvejic Jancic, "PORODICNO PRAVO \_ Knjiga I: Bracno pravo" (textbook "FAMILY LAW \_ Book I: Marriage Law" ) (Publishing Centre of the Law School in Novi Sad) (2001), pp. 239.

Olga Cvejic Jancic, "DA LI JE BRAK PREVAZIDJEN? NOVI OBLICI ZAJEDNICKOG ZIVOTA" ("IS MARRIAGE OBSOLETE? NEW FORMS OF COHABITATION") published in: Juridical Life No 9/2001.

J. Thomas Oldman, "Lessons from Jerry Hall v. Mick Jagger Regarding U.S. Regulation of Heterosexual Cohabitants or, Can't Get No Satisfaction," 76 Notre Dame Law Review 1409 (2001).

*Mark Strasser*, "A Small Step Forward: The ALI Domestic Partners Recommendation," 2001 Brigham Young University Law Review 1135.

Lynn D. Wardle, "'Multiply and Replenish': Considering Same-Sex Marriage in Light of State Interests in Marital Procreation," 24 Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy 771 (2001).

Lynn D. Wardle, "Deconstructing Family: A Critique of the American Law Institute's 'Domestic Partners' Proposal," 2001 Brigham Young University Law Review 1189.

# 3. Before/Creation of Parent-Child or Similar Relations

Margaret F. Brinig, "Moving Toward a First\_Best World: Minnesota's Position on Multiethnic Adoptions," 28 William Mitchell Law Review 553 (2001).

Gregory A. Loken, "The New Extended Family -- 'De Factor' Parenthood and Standing Under Chapter 2," 2001 Brigham Young Law Review 1045 (2001).

Elizabeth J. Samuels, "The Idea of Adoption: An Inquiry into the History of Adult Adoptee Access to Birth Records," 53 Rutgers Law Review 367 (2001).

### 4. Spousal Relations in the Ongoing Family

Margaret F. Brinig, "The Influence of Marvin v. Marvin on Housework During Marriage," 76 Notre Dame Law Review 1311 (2001).

Margaret F. Brinig, "Community Involvement and Its Limits in Marriage and Families," in Revitalizing the Institution of Marriage for the Twenty\_First Century (Hawkins, Wardle, and Coolidge, eds., Greenwood Press 15 (2002).

Steven L. Nock and *Margaret F. Brinig*, "Weak Men and Disorderly Women: Divorce and the Division of Labor," in Marriage and Divorce: A Law and Economics Approach (Dnes and Rowthorn, eds., Cambridge University Press, 2002)

# 5. Parent-Child Relations in the Ongoing Family or Similar Relations

Margaret F. Brinig, "Troxel and the Limits of Community," 32 Rutgers Law Journal 733 (2001).

Sally F. Goldfarb, "Visitation for Nonparents After *Troxel v. Granville*: Where Should States Draw the Line?," 32 Rutgers Law Journal 783 (2001).

Olga Cvejic Jancis, PORODICNO PRAVO \_ Knjiga II: Roditeljsko i starateljsko pravo (testbook "FAMILY LAW \_ Book II: Parental and Tutorship Law" )(Publishing Centre of the Law School in Novi Sad) 2000, pp. 190.

Frank Martin, "Parental Rights to Withhold Consent to Medical Treatment for Their Child: A Conflict of Rights?" 7 Irish Law Times, pp.114 119 (2001).

David D. Meyer, "Constitutional Pragmatism for a Changing American Family," 32 Rutgers Law Journal 711 (2001).

Nancy D. Polikoff, "The Impact of Troxel v. Granville on Lesbian and Gay Parents," 32 Rutgers Law Journal 825 (2001).

Barbara Bennett Woodhouse and Sacha Coupet, "Troxel v. Granville: Implications for at Risk Children and the Amicus Curiae Role of University-Based Interdisciplinary Centers for Children," 32 Rutgers Law Journal 857 (2001).

# 6. Termination/Post-Relations of Spouses & Quasi-Spouses

Brian H. Bix, "Gender Issues In Divorce: Commentaries on the American Law Institute's Principles of the Law of Family Dissolution," 8 Duke Journal of Gender Law & Policy 231 (2001).

# 7. Termination/Post-Relations of Parents and Children

Margaret F. Brinig, "Feminism and Child Custody Under Chapter Two of the American Law InstituteÆs Principles of the Law of Family Dissolution," 8 Duke Journal of Gender Law & Policy 301 (2001)

John Crouch, "International Child Custody Litigation", The Complete Lawyer, Fall, 1999, (Magazine of the ABA Solo, Small Firm & General Practice Section). Reprinted in Georgia State Bar Family Law News, Spring 2000.

*Karen Czapanskiy*, "ALI Child Support Principles: A Lesson in Public Policy and Truth Telling," 8 Duke Journal of Gender Law and Public Policy 101 (2001).

#### **Other Publications Notes:**

Laura W. Morgan maintains two websites pertaining to family law at http://www.supportguidelines.com and at www.famlawconsult.com.

NOTE: The Newsletter will publish notices of recent publications dealing with family law topics if the following information—Name of author, title of article or chapter, title of book or journal in which it is published, the volume and pages, the year of publication (and if the title of the article, chapter and/or book or journal is not in English a translation of the same into English - so that the entry can be placed in the appropriate category)—is sent to Prof. Laurence C. Nolan, Howard University School of Law, 2900 Van Ness Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20008; 202-806-8428 (fax); Inolan@law.howard.edu (e-mail).

### **PERSONAL NOTICES:**

Linda Nielsen has recently been elected Rector (that is President) of the University of Copenhagen

Linda Nielson, Peter Lödrup and Anders Agell have jointly been given the task by the ministries of justice, meeting in the Nordic council, to carry through a preparatory study of the possibilities to reharmonise the family and inheritance laws in the Nordic countries. It implies comprehensive studies. Peter and Anders plan a book of approximately 300 pages on succession and marriage respectively. Linda is completing a book on child law, or at least the main parts of that area, with help for specific issues by Peter and Svend Danielsen. Anders is the overall editor and director of the project.