

Law & Social Inquiry

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Law & Social Inquiry

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Law & Social Inquiry **Graduate Student Paper Competition**

The editors of *Law & Social Inquiry* are pleased to announce a competition for the best journal-length paper in the field of sociolegal studies written by a graduate student. The winning paper will be published in *Law & Social Inquiry*, and the author will receive a cash prize of \$500. Submissions will be judged by the editorial board, and the winning submission will be internally reviewed for publication. The author must be a graduate student or law student at the time of submission. Entries should be received by March 1, 2000. The winner will be selected by May 1 and the prize will be awarded at the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association.

Law & Social Inquiry publishes both empirical and theoretical studies of sociolegal processes from a variety of disciplinary perspectives.

Please send your best work to:

The Editors, *Law & Social Inquiry*, American Bar Foundation, 750 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60611. For further information send e-mail to lsi-abf@abfn.org, or call (312) 988-6517.

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The American Bar Foundation (ABF) is an independent research institute committed to sociolegal research. Consistent with its mandate to create and disseminate knowledge about law, the legal profession, and legal institutions, *Law and Social Inquiry: Journal of the American Bar Foundation* invites the submission of articles that make original contributions to understanding sociolegal processes. *Law and Social Inquiry* publishes both empirical and theoretical studies from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The analyses, conclusions, and opinions are those of the authors alone.

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The 2000 LSI Graduate Student Paper Prize

The winner of the 2000 LSI Student Essay Prize Competition is John Fabian Witt, for “From Loss of Support to Loss of Service: The Wrongful Death Statutes, the Origins of Modern Tort Law, and the Making of the Nineteenth-Century Family.” This essay makes a novel point about the intersection of tort law, family roles, and work in the 19th century. In it Witt argues that the wrongful-death statutes enacted in many states after 1865 reflected the shift to a free-labor economy, with its emphasis on separate spheres for women’s and men’s labor and the two-tiered valuation that came with it. The article concludes that the new tort laws cemented the cultural belief that women’s domestic work was not worth compensating; thus, the laws denied husbands and widowers the right to recover damages for loss of income, injuries, or death. The editors of *Law & Social Inquiry* award this essay the 2000 LSI Student Essay Prize for its originality in relating two heretofore distinct areas of legal and historical inquiry.

—The Editors
