Family Law and Litigation in Basotho Society

Sebastian Poulter

This study provides the first detailed and systematic account of the customary family law of the Basotho. Although essentially a legal work, it includes an introductory survey of the cultural, economic, social, and institutional framework within which the law operates. Hitherto in the absence of proper law reports little has been known about how the courts, at every level, have been applying the customary law. The orientation of the book has therefore been towards an examination of the outcome of family litigation. Over 300 cases, mostly decided in the 1960s in the lower courts, have been used to analyse the guiding principles and rules of Sesotho family law and to illustrate its adaptation and development. $\pounds 12$

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