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Family Law

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Family Law

*Multiple-Choice and Short-Answer
Questions and Answers*

FOURTH EDITION

Mark Strasser

TRUSTEES PROFESSOR OF LAW
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To my family
George, Emerson, and Nathan

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Preface

Traditionally, family law is a matter of state rather than federal concern, so it is of course true that family law is not uniform across the states. Nonetheless, the states treat many matters similarly whether because of uniform laws or federal constitutional or statutory law or because states have learned from each other or simply because of shared experiences in handling the kinds of issues that arise in families. The law represented here does not focus on that of a particular jurisdiction but instead represents the laws that might be found in a variety of states.

This volume has two kinds of questions — short answer and multiple choice. As a general matter, they involve fact scenarios from invented jurisdictions, an approach that highlights: (1) the similarities and differences among the states, and (2) the importance of considering the background law of the jurisdiction in which the events occur. Because choosing the appropriate forum can itself be a very important issue, some of the questions focus on jurisdictional rather than substantive law.

This volume covers a variety of areas covered in family law courses. As a general matter, federal and state statutes and case law are used as supporting authority in the answers. The aims of the volume are twofold: (1) to improve test-taking skills, and (2) to help students understand and apply the substantive law by highlighting some of the obvious and less obvious points that may be important when resolving some of the kinds of difficulties that might arise in family law.

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