From the Editor

The popularity of studies of law and community reflects the growing attention to the limited role of formal, public systems of law in much of the social order. The semi-autonomous social field, a concept capturing the effects of cultural differences on utilization of the official legal order (Moore 1978), might eventually be viewed as a more general framework for understanding law in everyday life (cf. Sarat & Kearns 1993). There are, in addition, important models of the competition between state law and other sources of order that depend less on cultural difference and more on the coincidence of law and political power. In a modern world in which extreme differences in wealth place entire communities outside systems for access to and exercise of power, nations are once again colonial rulers, often, as Boa Santos demonstrated in his classic study of a Brazilian favela (1977), within their own borders.

An elegant "law and community" case study of property relations in an "illegal" Bani Hassan tribal community in Jordan is presented by Omar Razzaz. The community, comprised of members of one of the largest tribes in Jordan, exists in limbo in an area of disputed political control and faces the practical problem of creating an order within which property ownership, economic relationships, and community political integrity can be maintained without legal status. In his analysis Razzaz tracks the strategic "moves" by the community (and its individual members) and the state in their contests to establish control of the legal order. Razzaz engages an important conceptual problem, namely, choosing a theoretical framework for the interplay between the network of relationships in the community and law of the Jordanian state, one that adequately captures the uncertainties arising from the ambiguous political and moral status of state-tribe relations in the Middle East.

Community plays an altogether different role in the account of marihuana decriminalization given by John Galliher and Albert DiChiara. Although "moral dissonance" created by the criminalization of the behavior of upper-class youth is one possible hypothesis, explaining the brief wave of state laws in the 1970s, legalizing marihuana proves to be a challenging search for a complex pattern of circumstances arising independently yet simultaneously in some states but not in all. Finding parallels in the legislative histories of states that passed such legislation, the authors suggest that politics and interest group activity (espe-

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cially on behalf of the police) blended to create a movement without an organization or members. They conclude that the public's deep moral ambivalence about marihuana use renders public commitment to decriminalization fragile while at the same time allows continuing de facto decriminalization by placing a low priority on enforcement of the laws (re)criminalizing marihuana use.

Paul Burstein and Mark Edwards examine the effects of national civil rights legislation on wage equalization for racial minorities. Acknowledging the impossibility of definitive direct measurement of the impact of such legislation, Burstein and Edwards are able, nevertheless, to draw important conclusions from a careful and measured consideration of data on litigation and wage differentials. While there is every reason to be skeptical of the efficacy of national legislation directed toward making large-scale institutional change, the answer may ultimately lie in politics—in the strength or weakness of institutional forces arrayed for and against change and through which law plays a role (see Simon 1992). Thus, Burstein and Edwards's approach, which relies heavily on data about national institutional shifts paralleling the change in the civil rights laws, suggests that circumstances may indeed have favored successful enforcement of these law.

In a highly original application of expectancy theory borrowed from industrial psychology, Stephen Mastrofski, R. Richard Ritti, and Jeffrey Snipes provide a fresh look at police behavior in drunk driving arrests. The model, based on officers' perceptions of rewards and opportunities, proves to have great predictive power in a sophisticated test that controls for other organizational effects. In addition, the authors are also able to bring to bear further theory about organizational behavior in private industry to explain the special case of "rate busters."

There have been relatively few studies of the work routines of lawyers. Thus, the careful study of divorce law practice undertaken by Craig McEwen, Lynn Mather, and Richard Maiman breaks new ground by describing lawyer-client interaction and decisions in one of the most common domains of private law practice. The study focuses on the ways that lawyers manage four specific tensions arising from the multiple goals of client representation in this, as well as in many other areas of practice: simultaneously pursuing negotiation and trial preparation; balancing attorney and client control; addressing legal as well as nonlegal issues; and efficient case management. In this context, the authors examine the impact of a mandated mediation program, concluding that its complex effects cannot be understood in terms of dichotomous categories—acceptance or rejection of mediation—but can best be understood in terms of the program's relationship to the management of the four tensions that structure divorce law practice.

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