

# Contents

Preface to second edition v

Preface to first edition vii

## **Introduction: Theory and Method in the Study of Law 1**

### **1 The Social Basis of Law 16**

Folkways and Mores 18

Law and Culture 20

Ehrlich's Polemic Against Legal Positivism 25

Law as the Framework of Social Life 28

Empirical Studies of the 'Living Law' 32

Mere Polemic? 34

The Problem of the Concept of Law 38

### **2 Law as an Instrument of Social Change 44**

Modern Law and Modern State 45

Social Change 47

The Limits of Effective Legal Action 50

Making People Good Through Law? 53

Legislative Strategies for Promoting Social Change 56

Some Prerequisites for Effective Legislation 59

Limitations of 'Law and Social Change' Studies 63

A Note on Autopoiesis Theory 65

### **3 Law as an Integrative Mechanism 71**

Function and Purpose in Law 72

A Law-centred Conception of Social Cohesion: Pound 74

Law and Solidarity in Modern Society: Durkheim 76

Universal Functions of Law?: Llewellyn 80

Social System and Social Structure: Parsons 81

The Autonomy of Law in Western Society 84

The Legal Profession and its Functions 86

The Legal System as a Sub-System of Society 89

- Law and Equal Opportunity: An Empirical Test of Parsonian Theory 91
- Functionalism as Social Theory 93
- The Integrative Functions of Law 95
- 4 Law, Power and Ideology 99**
- The Consensus Constituency 99
- Symbolic Functions of Law 102
- Marx: Repressive and Ideological Functions of Law 106
- Law, Class and Power 110
- Law and Ideology 114
- Legal Individualism 118
- Law in Corporate Society 123
- State and Individual 130
- The Problem of Economic Determinism 133
- 5 The Acceptance and Legitimacy of Law 137**
- The Experience of Law: Positivist Approaches and KOL Studies 138
- Legal Socialisation 141
- Deterrence and Compliance with Law 142
- Microsociological Approaches: Phenomenology, Ethnomethodology and Social Interaction 145
- Instrumental Acceptance of Law: Max Weber 148
- Legality and Legitimacy 152
- The Meaning of the Rule of Law 157
- The Transformations of Modern Law: Discretionary, Mechanical and Particularised Regulation 161
- Sociological Explanations of Changes in the Form of Western Law 166
- Legal Legitimacy After the Rule of Law? 169
- Ideology, Personal Values and Support for Law 171
- 6 Professional Guardianship of Law 179**
- What is a Legal Profession? 180
- Professional Unity and the Stratification of Legal Work 184
- Official Values of Legal Practice 187
- Client Interests and 'Public Interest' 191
- Professional Knowledge 194
- The Effects of Lawyers on the Law 200
- 7 Judges, Courts, Disputes 205**
- Concepts of Judge and Court 206
- Courts and Disputes 210



	Judicial Behaviour and Organisational Studies of Higher Courts	217
	Phenomenology, Ethnomethodology and Studies of Interaction and Organisation in Lower Courts	222
	Ideological Functions of Courts	225
	Judge and State	232
	Judicial Hierarchies as Administrative Systems	236
	Courts as Policy Makers	240
	Postscript on Functional Analysis of Courts	243
<b>8</b>	<b>The Enforcement and Invocation of Law</b>	<b>245</b>
	Institutional Commitments to Legal Doctrine	246
	Enforcing Law and Invoking Law	247
	Opportunity and Incentive to Invoke Law	250
	Types of Enforcement Agencies	257
	Regulatory Agencies and Their Strategies	259
	Regulatory Agencies and Their Environment	264
	Regulation and 'Real Crime'	270
	Police and Law	272
	Police Work and Police Organisation	278
	Police Culture	281
	Enforcement and Law	284
<b>9</b>	<b>The Prognosis for Law</b>	<b>286</b>
	The Scope of Law and Legal Authority	288
	Informalism, Delegalisation and Access to Law	291
	State, Civil Society and the Diffusion of Power and Control	295
	The Breakdown of Legal Autonomy?	298
	The Future of Legal Individualism	303
	A Postmodern World?	306
	Sociology of Law as Critique	309
	Notes and Further Reading	315
	Abbreviations	351
	References	352
	Index	385