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those two finings, since it was a conege course about law in society. I distinctly recall my profersors exchewing any core textbooks. They didn't even use "readers" or essay collections. In those days there weren't any. They gathered their own favorite articles and released them to us—with all the proper copyright permissions, I am oute sure.

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Fifteen years later, given the chance to teach how and society course in the University of Illihois system, I jumped at it. By that time, there were numerous dedicated textbooks, readers, and collections. Yet I found most—even the best ones—lacking in important ways. By that time, I also had a law degree of my own (plus a gently

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one).¹ I wanted a text that drew from all of the relevant law and society disciplines, including anthropology, history, public policy, economics, and law. And I wanted something that spoke about the inner workings of law—about doctrine and procedure, for example—as only lawvers might know it. My students, I felt, deserved such a text. P , there was none out there.

So I decided to assemble my own. I began by collecting raw articles, book chapters, and mixed media the way my own professors had more than a decade earlier. I then put together dozens of lesson plans, Power Point slide decks, question-andanswer sessions, quizzes, and writing assessments around these materials. I taught from