

issues: antigay legislation (identity principle), state regulation of surrogate parenthood (privacy principle) and domestic violence (agency principle). By focusing on different areas and levels of jurisprudence they show the depth and breadth

of law's influence. The book achieves its aims and it is an innovative contribution to feminism and law. I would also recommend it to a wider audience as the case studies make the book very readable and interesting.

**THE PSYCHOLOGY OF LEGITIMACY:
emerging perspectives on
ideology, justice, and intergroup
relations**

by **John T. Jost and Brenda Major**
(eds)

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press,
2001. 493, £18.95, ISBN 0 521 78699 1

Readership: Advanced
undergraduates, postgraduates,
academic/research

Rating: ***

Reviewer: **SHANE P. MULLIGAN**
(University of Cambridge)

While equality is generally seen as a fundamental value in the West, the persistence and apparent acceptance of various forms of inequality presents a dilemma to social researchers. This collection seeks to tackle this problem from a social psychological perspective. The contributors build upon theories of social identity, social dominance, and system justification, and through these perspectives seek to explain the perceived legitimacy (or illegitimacy) of seemingly unjust intergroup relations. Its sections look at (1) historical and conceptual approaches to

legitimacy and legitimation, (2) the cognitive and perceptual processes underlying the acceptance of non-ideal relations, (3) the consequences of the tolerance of injustice, (4) the role of stereotyping and ideology, and (5) institutional or organizational perspectives on the receipt of authority. Many chapters summarize and generalize from experimental data, and in doing so offer some interesting arguments on the connections between emotional needs, beliefs, and attitudes in individuals and groups. Yet the concept of legitimacy, as the authors are aware, is exceedingly broad, and the links between prejudicial attitudes or 'ingroup bias' and the acceptance of law and government are not so clearly drawn. Moreover, while the book makes some useful points, one feels a nagging discomfort with the way these seem based on the play of words. To speak of 'appraisals' and 'construals', of 'justifications' and 'rationalizations', of 'subjective perceptions of fairness' or 'accordance with values', is to offer cognates of 'legitimacy', not explanations. Thus while expanding the scope of these concepts somewhat, the collection may do more to stir the muddy waters of political discourse than to clear them up.

**POLITICS, WELLBEING AND
THE MARKET**

by **A. J. M. Milne (edited
by Roger Crisp and Alistair Milne)**

Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2001. 190, £42.50,
ISBN 0 333 71444 X

Reviewer: **JOHN O'NEILL**
(Lancaster University)

Politics, Wellbeing and the Market is a book edited from a manuscript left by Alan Milne on his death in 1998. It also includes the record of a conversation between Alan and Alistair Milne recorded in 1998. It attempts to extend the arguments in his earlier book *Ethical Frontiers of the State* (1998) to include consideration of the role of markets in an ethically