

AN EDITORIAL NOTE

The organization of a symposium issue presents several peculiar editorial problems. The main problem lies in the irreducible amount of substantive repetition between the articles. While the editorial effort seeks the neatest possible interlocking of coverage, an inevitable degree of overlapping develops. The resulting choice is difficult: whether to leave the overlap and risk excessive repetition, or to perform active trimming and risk harm to the integrity of the individual article. In cases of doubt the editorial decision has been to leave the familiar material included. It was felt worth the risk of some repetition to preserve the self-contained treatment of the article of each contributing author. Also, the perspective of the reader must be distinguished from that of the editor. The former is more likely to seek a particular article for a specific purpose, rather than to digest the entire symposium. For him, then, repetition is a far less likely annoyance than is omission from an individual article.

A recent development in law review presentation has been the more flexible form of writing to appear. The traditional forms have been the full-blown article by the outside author, the exhaustive comment by the student, and the briefer, focused student case note. One noticeable innovation has been what might be called the semi-article by the outside author. Briefer and more specific in its concern than the full article, it often appears as a rejoinder to a previous article. The author addresses himself to several points of particular importance and concludes. So long as discussion of these points is thorough, the rejoinder article provides an effective stimulus for ongoing dialogue and a useful instrument for sharpened coverage of specific subject matter. Certainly a contributing author, wishing to join the discussion on a narrow issue, should not be inhibited from doing so by the imagined requirement that every submission to a review must come in article-length form.

While the reviews may find useful this abbreviated form of outside author contribution, they have increasingly utilized lengthier and more ambitious student writing. Exhaustive, team-written student comments, often supported by extensive empirical research, have become commonplace. And, commensurately, the traditionally brief case note has been growing toward comment dimension. The extensive coverage resulting from two case note assignments for this issue has prompted us to acknowledge the hybrid product under the label of "comment." In both instances the work begins with the customary case note format, and then uses the case as a vehicle for discussion of

the issue area. The result more closely approximates a comment than a case note, but the development does remain tied to the case as the trunkline of the discussion.

Finally, the editors are especially grateful to Professor Benjamin Kaplan for his contribution to the Symposium. On relatively short notice, Professor Kaplan interrupted a crowded schedule to scan the page proofs and donate a timely and authoritative *Prefatory Note*.

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