

Contents

Acknowledgments	xiii
Introduction	1
Chapter 1: Issues Subject to Modification in Family Law	9
I. Introduction	9
II. Issues Subject to Modification in Family Law	10
III. Bargaining and Indemnification in Divorce Agreements	15
IV. Issues Subject to Modification—A New Model	19
A. Argument I: Broadening Issues Subject to Modification	19
1. A Theoretical View	19
2. A Practical View	23
B. Argument II: Eliminating Modification in Divorce Settlements	27
1. The Perspective of Contractual Obligations: Breach of Agreements	29
2. The Perspective of Public Policy: The Ongoing Destructive Relationship	31
3. The Perspective of Normative Harmony: Monetary Claims	33
4. The Limitations of Modifying Judicial Decisions	35
C. An Intermediate Path—Comprehensive Legislative Rules for Modification	37
1. Defining the Changed Circumstances Standard through Fixed Rules	38
2. The Effective Support Approach	45
3. The Tort Model	49
V. Conclusion	52

Chapter 2: The Right of a Minor to Independent Status	54
I. Introduction	54
II. Importance of the Minor's Right to Independent Status	55
A. Finality of Judgment	55
B. Natural Guardianship	57
C. The Right of the Minor to Independent Status	58
III. Exclusion of Other Interests in Family Law	61
A. Res Judicata and the Burden of Proof	61
B. Contractual Certainty, Rehabilitation, and Motivation to Settle	64
IV. Three Models for Balancing the Competing Interests	68
Model A: Consideration of the Interest of the Minor by the Court	68
Model B: Clear Legislative Guidelines	71
Model C: Independent Representation for the Minor	75
V. Conclusion	81
Chapter 3: Extramarital Relationships and the Theoretical Rationales for the Joint Property Rules	84
I. Introduction	84
II. Property Distribution and Extramarital Relationships—The Laws in the United States	86
A. The System of Family Property Distribution	86
B. The No-Fault Divorce Revolution	89
C. The No-Fault Divorce Revolution—The Shattered Dream	92
D. Fault in Property Distribution—The Laws in the United States	93
III. Extramarital Relationships and Property Distribution— The Normative View	100
A. The Moral Argument	100
B. A Dilemma Facing the Moral Argument	103
C. A Lack of Guidelines Leads to Judicial Arbitrariness	105
D. Which Field of Law Should Deal with Extramarital Relationships?	107
IV. Israeli law—Extramarital Relationships	109
A. Extramarital Relationships under a Joint Property Regime	109

B. Balancing of Resources—The Property Relations Law	111
C. Jewish Religious Law	113
V. The Modern Theoretical Rationales for Joint Property	114
A. The Joint Property Principles	114
B. Different Fields of Law and Extramarital Relationships	124
C. The Moral Argument—The Approach of Society	125
D. A Proposal for a New Model—The Dominant Cause Model	126
VI. Conclusion	128
Chapter 4: Property Sharing Arrangements in Israeli Family Law	131
I. Introduction	131
II. The Property Relations Law—The Theoretical and Normative Framework	133
III. The <i>Knobler</i> Case—A Solution with Endless Difficulty	136
IV. The Case Law That Followed the <i>Knobler</i> Case	139
A. The <i>Abu Romi</i> Case—An Obiter Dictum Becomes Precedent	139
B. An Asset Registered in the Name of One Spouse Is Held to Be a Shared Asset	140
C. The <i>Simchoni</i> Case—A Separate Asset Registered in the Name of Its Owner and Held by Creditors	142
D. The <i>Ben Giat</i> Case—Reinstatement of the Presumption of Sharing	143
E. Family Court Case Law	146
V. The Law in the United Kingdom	146
VI. The Law in the United States	152
VII. A New Model in Light of Amendment 4	158
A. Amendment 4—A Significant Change	158
B. A Desirable Normative Arrangement in Light of Amendment 4	160
C. The Normative Arrangement Concerning the Residential Apartment	162
VIII. Conclusion	164
Chapter 5: Recognition of Foreign Civil Marriages	166
I. Introduction	166
II. The <i>Schlesinger</i> Case—A Marriage between a Jew and a Non-Jew	169

III. The Validity of Civil Marriage	172
A. The <i>Skornik</i> Case—The Validity of a Marriage with Regard to Maintenance	172
B. Three Approaches for Examining the Validity of a Marriage	174
C. The <i>Anonymous</i> Case—The English Approach	175
IV. The <i>Ben Ari</i> Case—Registration of Same-Sex Civil Marriage	178
V. Conclusion	181
 Chapter 6: The Issue of Document Disclosure in General Court and in Family Court	183
I. Introduction	183
II. The Unique Nature of the Family Court	185
A. Establishment of the Family Court—Historical Background	185
B. The Release from Procedural Rules—Analysis and Review	187
III. Document Disclosure	190
A. Document Disclosure in the General Courts	190
B. Document Disclosure in Family Court	192
C. Does General Document Disclosure Apply in Family Court?	193
IV. The Response of the Family Court—A Critical Review	196
A. The “Pre-Trial” Rules as Authority for Document Disclosure	197
B. The Sanction for Noncompliance with Document Disclosure Orders	199
C. Rejection of the Constructions by the Courts of Appeal	200
D. Partial Adoption of the General Procedure: A Critical Review	201
V. The Legal Systems in Several Other Countries	203
A. The Australian Legal System	203
B. The Legal Systems in Canada	206
C. The Legal System in Several States within the United States	207

D. Adoption of the Process Used by the Labor Court in Israel	211
E. The Israel Supreme Court Approved an Order to Disclose a Document	213
VI. Conclusion	214
Glossary of Technical and Foreign-Language Terms	217
Index of Terms, Figures, and Sources	219
Legislation Index	227
Index of Cases	233

