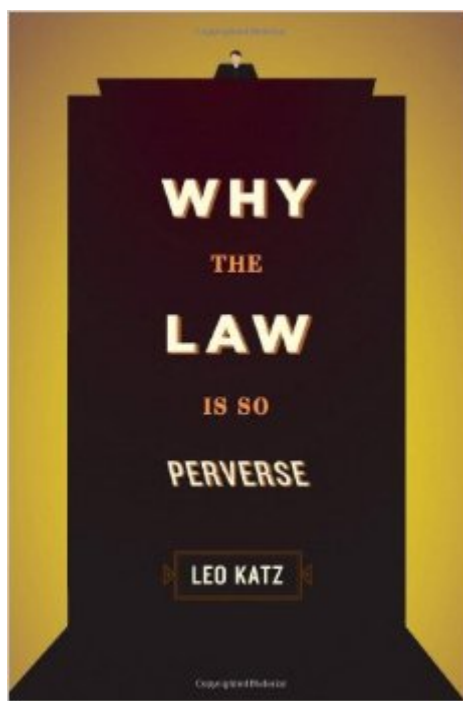


The book was found

Why The Law Is So Perverse



Synopsis

Conundrums, puzzles, and perversities: these are Leo Katz's stock-in-trade, and in *Why the Law Is So Perverse*, he focuses on four fundamental features of our legal system, all of which seem to not make sense on some level and to demand explanation. First, legal decisions are essentially made in an either/or fashion—guilty or not guilty, liable or not liable, either it's a contract or it's not—but reality is rarely as clear-cut. Why aren't there any in-between verdicts? Second, the law is full of loopholes. No one seems to like them, but somehow they cannot be made to disappear. Why? Third, legal systems are loath to punish certain kinds of highly immoral conduct while prosecuting other far less pernicious behaviors. What makes a villainy a felony? Finally, why does the law often prohibit what are sometimes called win-win transactions, such as organ sales or surrogacy contracts? Katz asserts that these perversions arise out of a cluster of logical difficulties related to multicriterial decision making. The discovery of these difficulties dates back to Condorcet's eighteenth-century exploration of voting rules, which marked the beginning of what we know today as social choice theory. Condorcet's voting cycles, Arrow's Theorem, Sen's Libertarian Paradox—every seeming perversity of the law turns out to be the counterpart of one of the many voting paradoxes that lie at the heart of social choice. Katz's lucid explanations and apt examples show why they resist any easy resolutions. The *New York Times Book Review* called Katz's first book "a fascinating romp through the philosophical side of the law." • *Why the Law Is So Perverse* is sure to provide its readers a similar experience.

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press (September 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226426033

ISBN-13: 978-0226426037

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars See all reviews (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #992,522 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in Books > Law > Legal Theory & Systems > Conflict of Laws #398 in Books > Law > Philosophy #610 in Books > Law > Legal Theory & Systems > Jurisprudence

Customer Reviews

I am a fan of all of Leo Katz's books -- you can learn more from each page of this than many casebooks combined. Despite the engaging and entertaining style of the book, it is a deep and important work of legal theory. Very roughly, Katz argues that the often strange structure of the law has more to do with Arrow's impossibility theorem than people have realized. It's an important idea and he delivers it in a very readable and enjoyable way.

Would recommend this book to any law student. Plan to use the book in an undergraduate legal studies class. Deals in an accessible fashion with some "deep" subjects.

This book talks about puzzles in the law, with very interesting stories, and very good reasoning. The author gives powerful argument for the intricacy and perversity of the law, but just wasted many pages on tiny details.

This book sparkles. The lucid prose, combined with the shrewd, provocative insights, leaves left me pondering anomalies of every day experience. As Professor Katz highlights, convincingly, the internal inconsistencies in our laws reflect, and reinforce, the internal inconsistencies embedded within each of us -- and all of us. A deft touch that digs deeply into the laws we enact and live by. I look forward to reading more from Professor Katz. Michael H. Friedman Philadelphia, PA

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Why the Law Is So Perverse Queen for a Day: Transformistas, Beauty Queens, and the Performance of Femininity in Venezuela (Perverse Modernities: A Series Edited by Jack Halberstam and Lisa Lowe) Why Can't My Child Behave?: Why Can't She Cope? Why Can't He Learn? The Feingold Diet updated for today's busy families IS THIS WHY AFRICA IS? (Why Africa is poor, Why Africa is not developing, What Africa needs, What Africa needs to develop): Africa, Africa, Africa, Africa Africa, Africa, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola Why Should I Eat Well? (Why Should I? Books) WHY RELATIONSHIP FIRST WORKS - Why and How It Changes Everything Why, Mommy, Why: Dissociative Identity Disorder Recovery Brain over Binge: Why I Was Bulimic, Why Conventional Therapy Didn't Work, and How I Recovered for Good Why Did He Stop Calling? Diagnose Why Men Grow Distant, Don't Commit, and Lose Interest - 14 Ways To Never Chase Again (Bring Out The Sass) DAMN! WHY DID I WRITE THIS BOOK TOO (How to play THE GAME) (DAMN! WHY DID I WRITE THIS BOOK? 2) Men on Strike: Why Men Are Boycotting Marriage, Fatherhood, and the

American Dream - and Why It Matters Why We Write: 20 Acclaimed Authors on How and Why They Do What They Do Why Him? Why Her?: How to Find and Keep Lasting Love Why Him? Why Her?: Finding Real Love By Understanding Your Personality Type Contracts Law Without The Confusion law book - (e borrow OK): law book - (e borrow OK) Definitions and Essay Writing: Contracts Torts Criminal law (Borrowing Allowed): Look Inside! This book is the best law school help for law students! (e book) Entertainment Law: The Law Student's Guide to Pursuing a Career in Entertainment Law Scholarly Writing for Law Students, Seminar Papers, Law Review Notes and Law Review Competition Papers (American Casebook Series) Human Rights and the Protection of Privacy in Tort Law: A Comparison between English and German Law (University of Texas at Austin Studies in Foreign and Transnational Law) Marriage: monogamy and polygamy on the basis of divine law, of natural law and of constitutional law : an open letter to the Massachusetts members of ... the opinion of the Supreme Court in Reynold

[Dmca](#)