Norms in a Wired World

Social order is regulated from above by the law, but its foundation is built on norms and customs, informal social practices that enable people to make meaningful and productive uses of their time and resources. Despite the importance of these practices in keeping the social fabric together, very little of the jurisprudential literature has discussed these norms and customs.

In *Norms in a Wired World*, Steven A. Hetcher argues that the traditional conception of norms as rulelike linguistic entities is erroneous. Instead, norms must be understood as patterns of rationally governed behavior maintained in groups by acts of conformity. Using informal game theory in the analysis of norms and customs, Hetcher breaks new ground by applying his theory of norms to tort law and Internet privacy laws.

This book will appeal to students and professionals in law, philosophy, and political and social theory.

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Norms in a Wired World

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This book is dedicated to my mother, Melva K. Hetcher,
my brother, Nick L. Hetcher,
and the memory of my father, V. Louis Hetcher.
They taught me to love. All else is icing on the cake.
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Acknowledgments

This book has been many years in the making. It has grown and evolved over a twelve-year period. I became interested in the philosophy behind norms while completing my dissertation at the University of Illinois-Chicago. My interest became infused with notions of rational actor theories from further graduate studies at the University of Chicago. The legal influence began with my work at the Yale Law School, and has continued the past six years while teaching at Vanderbilt Law School.

As with any project of this duration, the influences are many and the debts too extensive to be fully acknowledged, let alone repaid. Nevertheless, an attempt needs to be made. I wish to thank my dissertation committee, Gerald Dworkin, Charles Chastain, Richard Kraut, and especially Russell Hardin, both for his work on the committee and for the reading group on rational actor theory that he led, and Shelley Kagan, who served as chair of the committee and devoted uncounted hours to the project. Others whose arguments in various venues advanced my learning and understanding of the project include Randy Barnett, Brian Barry, Ann Bartow, Gary Becker, Emily Budziak, Paul Bullen, Guido Calabresi, Martha Chamallas, Tom Christiano, John Christman, James Coleman, Ingrid Creppel, Patrick Crookery, John Deigh, Robert Elickson, Jon Elster, Heidi Feldman, Mark Geistfeld, Steve Gilles, Walter Grinder, Jim Johnson, Greg Keating, Jack Knight, Bill Landes, Tony Kronman, Mark Lemley, Leonard Luggio, Richard McAdams, Tom Palmer, Stephen Perry, Eric Posner, Richard Posner, Adam Pritchard, Tony Sebok, Ed Sherline, Ken Simons, Cass Sunstein, and Ben Zipursky. Various colleagues have read parts and in many cases all of prior drafts of the book and have shared their comments. These include Mark Brandon, Lisa Bressman, Jon Bruce, Barry Friedman, John Goldberg, Erin O’Hara, David Partlett, Bob Rasmussen, Suzanna Sherry, Kent Syverud, Randall Thomas, Bob Thompson, Don Welch, Christopher Yoo, and Nick Zeppos. Many students at Vanderbilt Law School served ably as research assistants. These students are Robert Brewer, Derek Edwards, Kimberly Gilman,
Acknowledgments

Catherine Hora, Aaron Kamlay, Mark Plotkin, Linda Potapova, Ryan Raforth, Tatjana Stoljarova, Beth Thomas, Angela Vitale, and Phillip Young. Invaluable assistance also came from librarians and staff, including Alycia Buford, Martin Cerjan, Janet Hirt, Stephen Jordan, Kathleen Kennedy-Jones, Abigail Larimer, Emily Urban, and Kelley Walker.

Finally, this book would not have been completed without the continued and unflagging guidance and inspiration of Jules Coleman.