Remnants of Eastern Europe's totalitarian past: the example of legal education in Bulgaria

W D Meyer

43 J Legal Educ, 2, June 1993, pp 227-245

The Bulgarian psyche is traditionally mistrustful of lawyers. The ensuing Communist regime in Bulgaria promoted a rule by party, opposed to the rule of law. Within the communist Bulgarian law schools a culture of careerism and sycophancy prevailed. The author reports that the change in ideology brought about by the 1989 collapse of communism has effected little change in the law schools He examines the law of Bulgaria. schools, the faculties, the curricula and the law students of present day postcommunist Bulgaria to discover interfaculty disdain, archaic curricula and teaching methods, high student absenteeism and a student body driven by self-interest. The author forecasts that the diverse language skills of Bulgarian law students will allow them to draw ideas from foreign texts, and that the emergence of law schools concerned with experimentation and change will facilitate the reform of legal education in Bulgaria.

#### **LEGAL ETHICS**

Reconstructing a pedagogy of responsibility

B Bezdek

43 Hastings L J, 4, April 1992, pp 1159-1174 \*

Professor Bezdek's approach stems from her observation that student learning about responsibility suffers badly from the phenomenon of law school socialisation and that counter-socialisation is required. She encourages students to ask: What is my own responsibility as a lawyer to people who are poor? She shows how Maryland's Legal Theory and Practice program equips students to recognise and break down the rhetoric that makes both students and lawyers feel helpless in the face of daunting poverty.

Commentary on Judge Edwards'
"Growing disjunction between legal
education and the legal profession"
J L Oakes

[see Purpose]

Lawyers and caring: building an ethic of care into professional responsibility T Glennon

[see Purpose]

Teaching abroad: or "what would that be in Hungarian?"

K Kollath & R Laurence [see Teachers]

### **LEGAL PROFESSION**

[no material in this edition]

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### PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

[no material in this edition]

# POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS

[no material in this edition]

#### PRACTICAL TRAINING

[no material in this edition]

The Centre for Legal Education has recently published three monographs on various aspects of legal education. They are:

- The Modernisation of Legal Education: A critique of the Martin, Bowen and Pearce Reports by Judith Lancaster
- A Study of the Continuing Legal Education Needs of Beginning Solicitors by John W Nelson
- Senior solicitors and their participation in continuing legal education by Christopher Roper

More details are available from the Centre (see page 12 for details)

#### **PURPOSE**

The deprofessionalisation of legal teaching and scholarship

R A Posner

91 Mich L Rev, 8, August 1993, pp 1921-1928

The author comments on an article by Judge H T Edwards' "The growing disjunction between legal education and the legal profession" (91 Mich L Rev, 1992, p 34), which claims that law schools no longer train ethical practitioners or produce scholarship useful to lawyers and judges. The author points out that law schools are now larger and more numerous, that the legal profession has itself changed considerably with different demands being placed upon the Legal scholarship, he profession. contends, has in fact not changed very much. He does agree that it dates very quickly and is only of immediate service to the legal profession itself.

The growth of interdisciplinary research and the industrial structure of the production of legal ideas: a reply to Judge Edwards

G L Priest

91 Mich L Rev, 8, August 1993, pp 1929-1944

The author comments on an article by H T Edwards, "The growing disjunction