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Law, Language and Change

A Diachronic Semantic Analysis of *Consideration* in the Common Law

Author: Caroline Laske

In this monograph, Caroline Laske traces the advent of consideration in English contract law, by analysing the doctrinal development, in parallel with the corresponding terminological evolution and semantic shifts between the fourteenth and nineteenth centuries. It is an innovative, interdisciplinary study, showcasing the value of taking a diachronic corpus linguistics-based approach to the study of legal change and legal development, and the semantic shifts in the corresponding terminology. The seminal application in the legal field of these analytical methodologies borrowed from pragmatic linguistics goes beyond the content approach that legal research usually practices and it has allowed for claims of semantic change to be objectified. This ground-breaking work is pitched at scholars of legal history, law & language, and linguistics.

Readership

This work is pitched at scholars and advanced graduate students interested in legal history, law & language, and linguistics; and is of importance to scholars of private law working on promises and contract.

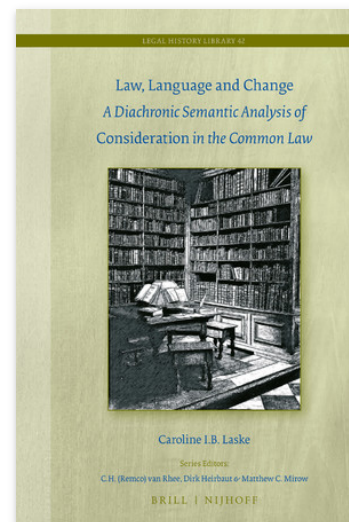
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