When things go wrong in public and private sector relationships: A meeting on Compensation

Saltmarsh Rooms, King’s College, Cambridge, 25 September 2006

Programme

Rationale
Compensation is an increasingly important area in the relation between both private and public sector bodies and clients/consumers and citizen. Indeed, as the two relationships evolve, the comparison between consumer and citizen becomes more relevant. Exploring changing conceptions and practices as to what states and private bodies owe citizens in compensation when things go wrong is an underexplored way of tracking changes in those relationships themselves. The meeting will examine aspects of these relationships from legal, historical, and philosophical perspectives.

Paper authors and titles
Claire Grant, Law, Birkbeck: ‘Law and Security: Punishment and Compensation’
Julia Moses, History, Cambridge: ‘Accidents at work, security and compensation in industrializing Europe. The cases of Britain, Germany and Italy, 1870-1925’
Daniel Squires, Barrister, Matrix Chambers: ‘“Compensation Culture” and the impossible distinction between state acts and omissions’

Discussants
Melissa Lane, History, Cambridge
Janet McLean, Law, University of Dundee
Antje du Bois-Pedain, Law, Cambridge

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9:30 – 9:50 Welcome & introductory remarks
9:50 – 11:10 Discussion of Squires: administrative law Discussant: Janet McLean
11:10-11:30 Coffee
11:30-12:50 Discussion of Moses: employment law & history Discussant: Melissa Lane
12:50-2:00 Lunch
2:00-4:15 Discussion of Grant and Bou-Habib: punishment and profiling Discussant: Antje du Bois-Pedain
4:15-4:45 Tea
4:45-5:30 Concluding remarks & discussion