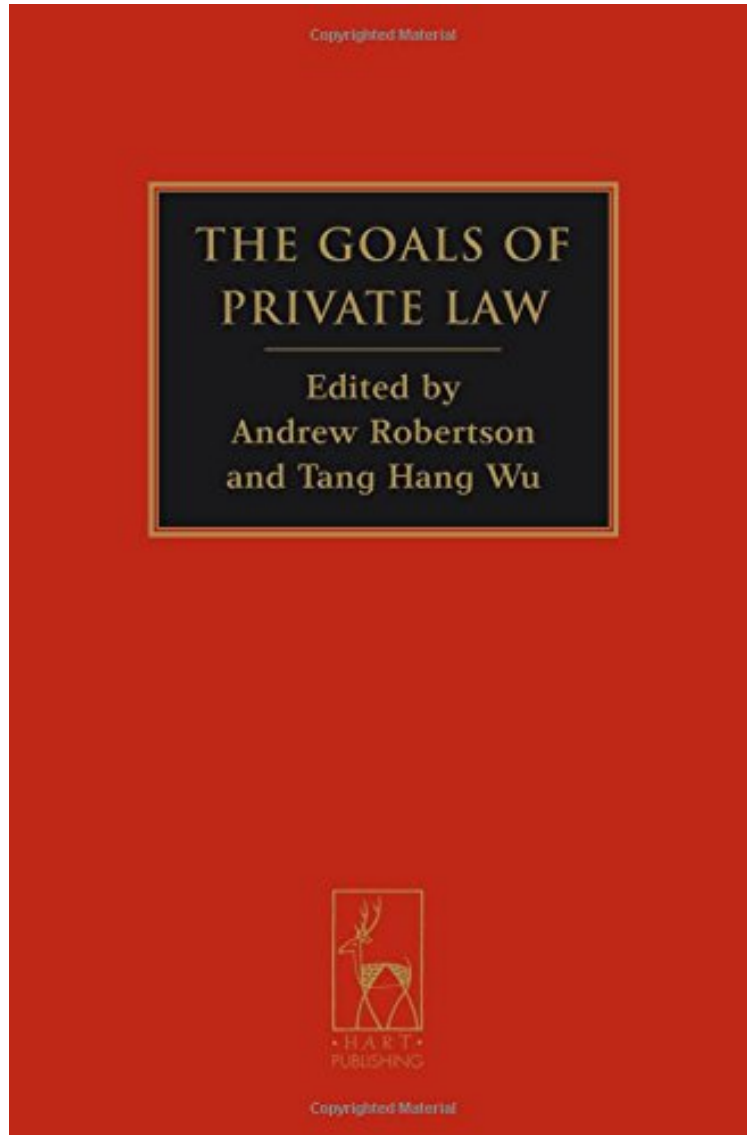


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## The Goals of Private Law

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This collection contributes to a fundamental debate about the nature of private law. The essays consider whether private law should be seen as having goals and, if so, whether those goals are particular to private, as opposed to

public, law. They consider the legitimacy of the pursuit of community welfare goals in private law and the place of instrumentalist thinking in private law scholarship. They explore the relationship between the pursuit of policy goals and the other influences that shape private law, such as the formal values of certainty, consistency, and coherence, as well as the need to do justice to the parties to particular disputes. They analyze the role that particular policy goals do, and should, play in particular private law doctrines. They also contribute to the debate about the relationship between community welfare goals and considerations of interpersonal morality arising from the interactions between individuals. The contributors are drawn from across the common law world and offer a diverse range of perspectives on the controversies under consideration.

The Goals of Private Law is a book that contains much fodder for thought. It contains views as diverse and pluralistic as its title implies and is a collection of articles that will be appreciated by anyone seeking to understand the nature of law and what the law as an institution can, and should, seek to achieve. Karin Lai Yiling *The Singapore Journal of Legal Studies* July 2011 The chapters in Robertson and Tang's collection are well worth reading for the private lawyer [and] would be a valuable addition to all tort lawyers' bookshelves. Professor Prue Vines *Torts Law Journal* Volume 19, 2011 About the Author Andrew Robertson is a Professor of Law at the University of Melbourne. He has written extensively on contract law, contract theory, estoppel and equitable remedies and is editor of *The Law of Obligations: Connections and Boundaries* (London: UCL Press, 2004) and co-author of *Principles of Contract Law* (Sydney: Law Book Co, 1st ed, 2002; 2nd ed, 2005) and *Contract: Cases and Materials* (Sydney: Law Book Co, 9th ed, 2003; 10th ed, 2005). Hang Wu Tang is an Associate Professor of Law at the National University of Singapore. Hang Wu has published widely on unjust enrichment, equity and property in the *Journal of Contract Law*, *Restitution Law* and the *Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal*.