



# Law Library E-Newsletter The Book Docket

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Emerging Technologies and Reference Librarian

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## Article of the Month

- The RSS Feed That Loved Me

Stephanie Hess

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## THE RSS FEED THAT LOVED ME


Stephanie Hess

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Depending upon whom you ask, the acronym 'RSS' can stand for several things: Rich Site Summary, Really Simple Syndication, RDF Site Summary, etc. In a nutshell, RSS is an ideal tool for automatically tracking updates to news sites, blogs, and other frequently updated web resources. RSS offers tech-savvy subscribers an advanced version of push technologies.

A fabulous development in Web communication, RSS is a flexible software tool that powers many popular applications such as weblogs, knowledge management networks, and news syndication. The tremendous beauty of RSS lies in its open method of syndicating and aggregating Web content. By using RSS feeds, you can easily create a plethora of data channels that will supply oodles of news headlines, blog links, and article summaries from select web sites and store the results on a browser of your choosing. Each time a site generates new content, subscribers receive an alert notifying them of the change. Likewise, readers can have continuously updated information on subjects of their choice delivered to their PCs or PDAs via a news aggregator, a piece of software specifically tailored to receive these types of feeds. For tutorials and an in-depth history of RSS, visit the RSS Board's web site at <http://www.rssboard.org/>.

Web sites that provide RSS feeds generally have the now-iconic orange RSS button displayed above. Simply click on the  icon or the "Subscribe to this feed" link in the next screen. The selected feed is then stored to your browser. Another option is to cut and paste the feed's URL directly into your RSS reader. Code jockeys and other geeks wishing to delve further into the delightful world of codes and scripts will enjoy reading *Secrets of RSS: A Guided Tour of the Mysteries of RSS for both Readers and Publishers* by Steven Holzner. (Peachpit Press: Berkeley, CA, 2006). The Law Library's copy is shelved in the general collection at

TK5105.888 .H65125 2006.

As sexy as RSS is in the technological sense, not all sites providing content via RSS are created equal. Yours truly highly recommends LawBlawg (<http://www.blawg.com/>) as it not only offers RSS feeds but features over 2,330 legal blogs (1,341 active) with more sites added daily. LawBlawg's extensive directory comprises a wide variety of topics. From "Bar Exams" to "World Blawgs" there's something for every legal professional and law student to enjoy. Listings are aggregated by category, enabling users to subscribe to multiple sites via one feed. Users are welcome to suggest their own as well as other authors' law-related blogs. Legal professionals and students situated in Florida will especially benefit from subscribing to the "Florida Aggregated Blawg Entries" feed (<http://www.blawg.com/RssWriter.aspx?Category=68>). And if that isn't enough to cause virtual swooning, I have two final syllables for you: podcasts.

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## Book of the Month: **TEST TUBE FAMILIES: WHY THE FERTILITY MARKET NEEDS LEGAL REGULATION**

By Naomi R. Kahn

KF3830 .C34 2009 Recent Acquisitions on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

**Review by Deborah McGovern**

The author of this timely new title takes as her starting point Habermas' observation that new developments in technology create the need for new regulation. However, she somewhat disingenuously fails to mention Habermas' contention that human beings have a right to a genetic inheritance free from artificial intervention. Kahn, by contrast, is fully convinced of a right to assisted reproductive technologies (ART). She correctly perceives, however, that there are many issues surrounding their use that must be addressed by society as a whole, and not just by those demanding the use of ART and their clinicians. As the Nadya Suleman case has shown, in the absence of legal regulation those clinicians may freely make dubious clinical and ethical judgments. The Suleman case has brought to the fore the urgent need for society to arrive at a consensus as to what regulations should govern the use of gametic material. Should would-be parents be able to choose the "best" sperm and eggs? Should children conceived with ART be able to discover the identities of the donors? Who has parental rights over children who are so conceived? One need not agree with Kahn's conclusions to be convinced that the discussion of social policy issues raised by ART and the creation of uniform laws governing ART are long overdue.

This month's suggestion courtesy of Deborah McGovern, Emerging Technologies and Reference Librarian

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## URL/Website of the Month:

<http://downforeveryoneorjustme.com/>

This month's URL is perfect for those who are Google-dependent, and who among us is not? It lets you know, as you wait impatiently, whether Google is down for everyone or just you. You can also check the status of other web sites, but the application does not work for Nova's own online library catalog, Novacat.

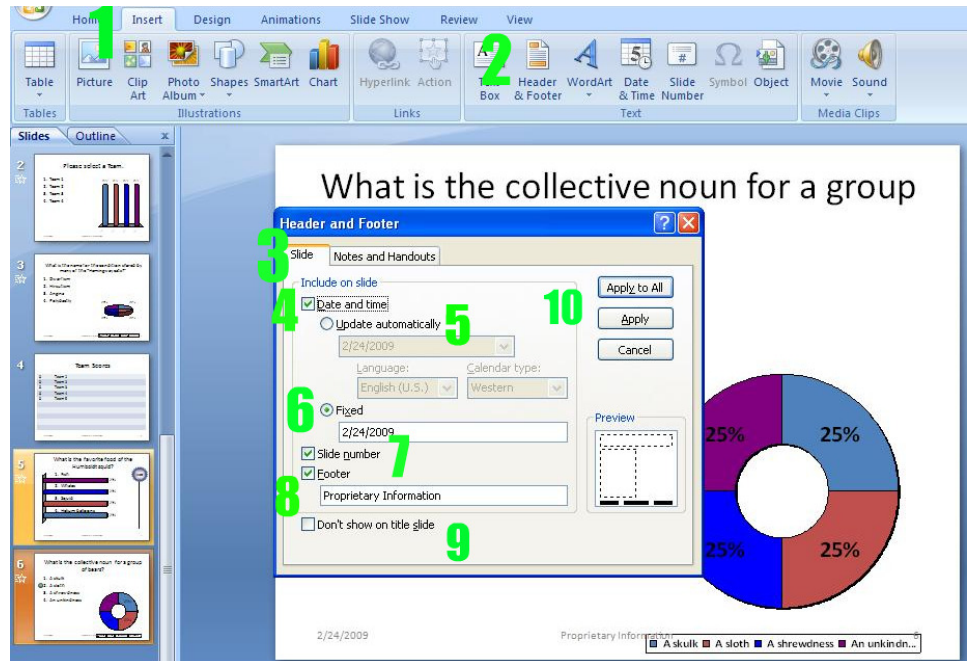
This month's suggestion courtesy of Alison Rosenberg, Electronic Services and Reference Librarian.

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## Tech Tip of the Month: PowerPoint 2007

This tech tip allows you to add information such as the slide number (to make it easier to refer to your lecture notes for a particular slide) or your name to your PowerPoint slides in PowerPoint 2007.

1. First, select any slide by clicking on it in Normal view.
2. On the Insert tab, click the Header & Footer button to display the Header and Footer Dialogue box.
3. On the Slide tab (3) in the dialog box...
4. ...select the Date and Time box if you want the date to appear.
5. If you want the date to be updated automatically, select the Update automatically option and select the format for the date.
6. If you want the same date to always be displayed, select the Fixed date option.
7. Select the Slide number check box if you want the slide number displayed.
8. If you want particular text to appear in each footer, select the Footer box and enter the text in the text box.
9. Select the Don't Show on Title Slide box if you want the footer to appear on every slide except the title slide, or clear the check box if you want the footer to appear on all slides.
10. Click Apply to have the footer appear only on the selected slide, or click Apply All to have it appear on all slides



## Faculty & Staff Publications:

**Bob Jarvis:** *Punitive Damages in Maintenance and Cure Cases: Time for an Encore?*, 36 PREVIEW OF UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT CASES 284 (2009).

**Joel Mintz:** Chapter titled, *Hazardous Waste and Superfund: Few Changes and Little Progress*, in AGENDA FOR A SUSTAINABLE AMERICA (Environmental Law Institute 2009).

**John Sanchez:** *The Vesting, Modification, and Financing of Public Retiree Health Benefits in Light of New Accounting Rules*, 41 J. MARSHALL L. REV. 1147 (Summer 2008).

2008 update to STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT LIABILITY (Thomson West).

## Forthcoming Works:

**Tim Arcaro:** *Child Sexual Abuse and the Law*, MICH. CHILD. WELFARE L. J. (Summer 2009).

**John Sanchez:** *Survey of Florida Public Employment Law*, NOVA L. REV. (2008).

### **Presentations, Appearances, Teaching, Interviews, Honors and Citations:**

**Marilyn Cane:** She was appointed Vice Chair of the Antitrust, Franchise and Trade Regulations Committee of the Florida Bar Business Law Section.

**Kathy Cerminara:** Her paper, *Introduction: Health Care in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Cost, Quality, and Access in the New Millennium*, was listed on SSRN's Top Ten download list for Public Goods & Regulation in Health Economics.

She took part in a panel discussion on February 2 titled "Immortality: Science Fact or Fiction" intended to complement Jack Kevorkian's appearance in the Distinguished Speaker series at NSU.

She presented a guest lecture to the Ph.D. students in NSU's physical therapy program about end-of-life issues on February 23.

She will be speaking at the Therapeutic Jurisprudence Symposium at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, Florida on February 27.

**Areto Imoukhuede:** He will be presenting his research *Private Contracts and Public Resources in the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Protective Service* at the 2009 Southeast/Southwest People of Color Legal Conference in Phoenix this March.

**Bob Jarvis:** His article, *An Introduction to Maritime Attachment Practice Under Rule B*, 20 J. of Mar. L. and Comm., No. 4, 521 (Oct. 1989), was cited in *Beluga Chartering GMBH v. Korea Logistics Systems Inc.*, 589 F. Supp. 2d 325 (S.D.N.Y., 2008).

He was quoted in the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* for December 19 in a story about the current ethics problems of Palm Beach Circuit Judge-elect William Abramson.

He was quoted in the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* for December 28 in a

story about the propriety of prosecutors listening to telephone calls between an inmate and his attorney on an unsecured jailhouse line.

He was quoted in *Travel Weekly* for January 12 in a story about a Muslim family that was denied boarding by AirTran Airways after other passengers claimed the family talked about blowing up the plane.

He was quoted on *MSNBC.com* for January 22 in a story about the new plus-sized traveler rules adopted by Canada's airlines.

He was quoted in the *Miami Herald* for January 22 in a story about the future of gambling in Florida.

He was quoted in the *Miami Herald* for January 27 in a story about possible ethical violations committed by Broward County Mayor Stacy Ritter when she was a state legislator. The article also appeared in *El Nuevo Herald* for February 1.

He was quoted in the *National Law Journal* for February 2 in a story about the current struggle to hire law school deans.

He was quoted in the *Los Angeles Daily News* for February 3 in a story about the National Letter of Intent program used by colleges to sign high school athletes.

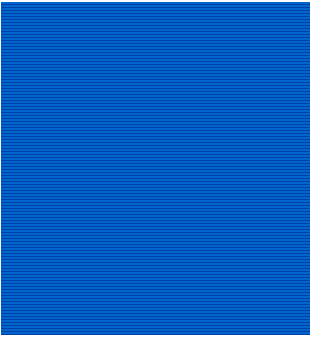
He was quoted in the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* for February 5 in a story about the Florida Supreme Court's decision to prohibit William Abramson from taking his seat on the Palm Beach Circuit Court.

He was quoted in the *Orlando Sentinel* for February 7 in a story about Todd Black, who is serving as the spokesman for the defense team in the Casey Anthony trial.

He was quoted in the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* for February 12 in a story about the decision of Cooper City officials to stifle public criticism of their decisions.

**Athornia Steele:** He is chairing the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) Nominating Committee.

**Rick Stone:** He was quoted on *Bloomberg.com* for February 23 in a



story about Stanford Financial Group Co. and the release of some customer funds.