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Country-Specific Case Studies


Abstract:
This Note proposes that criminal liability attach to egregious labor safety violations in China. Currently Chinese law provides that when an industrial accident results in death, injury, or extreme consequences and is the result of safety violations that have already been noted by the authorities, then the employees who are responsible -- not the enterprise -- are liable under civil law. The author argues that criminal liability rather than civil liability would bring about more effective enforcement of the industrial safety laws. He notes that such a reform would necessitate a more defined mens rea requirement analogous to that required for negligent homicide or reckless endangerment. He also argues that criminal liability for managers and/or the employing entity itself would be a more effective method of enforcing safety regulations.

Subjects: Country-Specific Case Studies, Health and Safety

Budd, John W. & Mumford, Karen, "Trade Unions and Family-Friendly Policies in Britain", Industrial and Labor Relations Review v. 57 (January 2004) p. 204-221

Abstract:
Relying on the British Workplace Employee Relations Survey of 1998, this article analyzes the relationship between labor unions and six employer-provided family-friendly policies--parental leave, paid family leave, child care subsidies, flexible working hours, working at home options, and job sharing plans. The study finds that unions increase the availability of parental leave, special paid leave and job-sharing options, though not work-at-home arrangements nor flexible working hours. The authors conclude that unions, with their higher bargaining leverage, are better positioned both to negotiate for superior family-leave benefits for their workers, and inform their members of options that may already exist but are under-utilized.

Subjects: Country-Specific Case Studies, Women’s Rights, Working Hours

Forced Labor


Abstract:
Professor Tiefenbrun discusses the impact of the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA), enacted in 2000. The author observes that in the U.S. the statute has refocused government on assisting trafficking victims and punishing the perpetrators, rather than treating the victims as criminals under the prostitution and immigration laws. Tiefenbaum notes that the TVPA has spurred the enactment of new criminal statutes that streamline prosecution and provide harsher penalties for traffickers; train
immigration and law enforcement personnel to recognize potential victims; and provide victims with "T-visas" and witness protections programs. Internationally, the author argues that the TVPA has led to increased cooperation between the United States and other countries to eliminate sex trafficking. Finally, Tiefenbaum discusses the impact of reports that TVPA requires the Department of State publish each year detailing other nations' efforts and success at reducing trafficking. The author contends that these reports have caused many countries to increase their anti-trafficking efforts, in part because the U.S. began issuing economic sanctions in 2003 against low-ranking countries.

Subjects: Forced Labor, Immigration, Women’s Rights

Full-text links: || WESTLAW ||
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**Links to Related Projects**


The Asian Law Centre, an initiative of the University of Melbourne Law School, devoted to the development of understanding of Asian law, offers an extensive bibliography of Asian labor law articles and reports.


Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law is a research and teaching center devoted to the development of an understanding of labor law at the University of Melbourne. The Center’s website describes the activities of the Center and contains links to several databases that are of interest to labor law scholars and practitioners. For example, the Center’s Work Relations Law Project contains extensive information about Australian labor law that can be accessed directly at [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/special/industrial/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/special/industrial/).

**ETUI Labourline:** [http://www.labourline.org/Etui](http://www.labourline.org/Etui)

ETUI Labourline is a database of European labor information resources covering European, international and comparative aspects of industrial relations and health and safety issues, developed by the Documentation Centres of the European Trade Union Institute and the European Trade Union Institute for Health and Safety(Prusssel). The consolidated bibliographic database contains more than 20,000 references to documents focusing on industrial relations, and more than 15,000 references to documents on health and safety issues.

**Globalization Bulletin:** [http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~dbensman/bulletin.html](http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~dbensman/bulletin.html)

The Globalization Bulletin is a weekly e-newsletter providing linked access to the latest articles, research, and web resources on a range of global labor issues—ranging from union organizing and labor markets to immigrations and trade agreements. The Bulletin is produced by the Globalization Task Force of the New Jersey Division of the United Nations Association-USA and the Department of Labor Studies and Employment Relations School of Management and Labor Relations, Rutgers University. To subscribe, email David Bensman at dbensman@smlr.rutgers.edu.

**Labor and Global Change Database:** [http://www.ilir.umich.edu/lagn/](http://www.ilir.umich.edu/lagn/)

The Labor and Global Change Database provides bibliographies, citation information and (where available) web links to the full text of research exploring connections between labor and globalization. The database aims to provide researchers with an easy means to make the results of their work widely available to other scholars and the interested public. The database is run by and continually updated by the Labor and Global Change Program of the University of Michigan.
LabourWeb: http://www.lex.unict.it/eurolabor/en/

The Labour Web is a comprehensive documentation center for information about European labor law, social law, industrial relations and the welfare state. It contains up-to-date versions of European Union law, directives, pending directives, EU news, press releases, economic statistics and decisions of the European Court of Justice. It also contains a Working Papers series and subject matter reports (dossiers) on issues concerning European integration. The site also provides links to other websites that contain working papers, statistical reports, and other information about social, economic and industrial relations affairs in the European context. It is run by the Massimo D’Antona Centre for the Study of European Labour Law, at the Faculty of Law of the University of Catania.

The Marco Biagi Centre for International and Comparative Studies:
http://www.csmb.unimo.it

The Marco Biagi Centre for International and Comparative Studies at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy, functions as policy resource center on comparative labor issues. Besides publishing books and law journals, the Center provides a clearinghouse of international law journals, including the International Journal of Comparative Labour Law and Industrial Relations (http://www.csmb.unimo.it/journal.html). Currently only in Italian, the Center’s website will soon offer an English version.

Trade Unions and Labor Relations Database: http://www.polwiss.fu-berlin.de/tu/english/

The database, produced by the Institute of Labor Relations of the Otto-Suhr-Institute of the Freie University of Berlin, contains almost 7,000 citations of books, articles, working papers, brochures, proceedings etc. The bulk of the citations address aspects of labor relations in Germany, but there is a substantial body of literature in the database covering the EU and Eastern Europe.
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