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THE DAVID HUME INSTITUTE
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AUTUMN SEMINAR SERIES 2003

"Issues in Law"

REGISTRATION FORM

**N.B. All seminars begin at 6.00pm and will be held at
the Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22-26 George Street, Edinburgh.**

- Thursday 30th October 2003** **£12**
'The Compensation Culture - Lies, Greed and Anger in the Courts'
Mr Frank Maguire (Solicitor-Advocate at Thompsons) and
Mr Tony Weir (Reader in Law and Fellow at Trinity College, Cambridge)

- Thursday 13th November 2003** **£12**
(in association with and sponsored by, the Europa Institute)
'Human Rights Legislation - so far, so good?'
Professor Keith Ewing (King's College London) and
Lord Robert Reed (Court of Session and High Court of Justiciary)

- Thursday 27th November 2003** **£12**
**'Regulating the Internet -
with special reference to pornography, child grooming and other related issues'**
Ms Lilian Edwards (School of Law, University of Edinburgh)
Mrs Alison Di Rollo (Crown Office)

- All three seminars £30**
- Please invoice me**
- I enclose a cheque for £(made payable to The David Hume Institute)**
- Institute Member - free admittance**

N.B. No refunds are available but substitutions may be made

PLEASE GIVE THE NAME OF EACH PERSON ATTENDING

NAME (BLOCK CAPITALS) _____

JOB TITLE _____

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◆ **AUTUMN SEMINAR SERIES 2003** ◆

To register for these seminars:

Please complete and return or fax back (0131 667 9609) the enclosed Registration Form

Date: 30 October 2003

Speakers: Mr Frank Maguire (Solicitor-Advocate at Thompsons)
Mr Tony Weir (Reader in Law and Fellow at Trinity College, Cambridge)

Topic: **'The Compensation Culture - Lies, Greed and Anger in the Courts'**

There is a general perception that the extent of personal injury litigation is on the increase. While it is generally accepted that those who have suffered an injury owing to the negligence of others should be compensated, there is some debate over whether this compensation is best effected through the legal system. The market signal that legal action (and damages) sends, does of course, provide an incentive to people and businesses to behave with due care. There are, on the other hand, substantial transaction costs involved in taking such matters through the courts.

Even if such matters are to be resolved within the legal system, there are procedural improvements that could be made to improve the efficiency of the system. These policy issues will be addressed by two experts in the area of personal injury litigation.

Date: 13 November 2003 (*in association with and sponsored by, the Europa Institute*)

Speakers: Professor Keith Ewing (King's College London)
Lord Robert Reed (Court of Session and High Court of Justiciary)

Topic: **'Human Rights Legislation - so far, so good?'**

To many observers, the impact of the Human Rights Act has been quite far reaching. Perhaps even surprisingly far reaching in a country that had grown used to thinking of itself as having a proud record of defending human rights. Some argue that the implementation has been overly rigorous, while others point to the ascendancy that human rights legislation has given to civil and political rights at the cost of social and economic rights.

There is also the view that there is a considerable way yet to go in the implementation of this legislation, and that matters should first be allowed to run their course before any trimming, re-balancing or extensions are proposed.

This event will bring together two distinct views of the best way forward in this important area.

Date: 27 November 2003

Speakers: Ms Lilian Edwards (School of Law, University of Edinburgh)
Mrs Alison Di Rollo (Crown Office)

Topic: **'Regulating the Internet - with special reference to pornography, child grooming and other related issues'**

Simply adding the letter 'e' to any form of business is commonly held to be a sure-fire way of both modernising that business and, at least until the bursting of the dot-com bubble, of guaranteeing financial success. But, in many cases, the move to the Internet brings with it additional complications that did not previously exist. There are distinct ethical questions that have to be confronted when considering regulating the Internet and, of course, some very different views exist as to what is the best way forward.

This seminar will bring together an academic expert in the field, who will review the general issues that arise and lead the discussion into a particular applied area, namely, pornography. The second speaker will offer some first hand experience of using the law to tackle the growing problem of the exploitation of children over the internet, both through pornography and through 'grooming' offences.