

Transcript of Sarah Nield's video podcast

What was it like working together to write the book?

It was a really rewarding and indeed, inspirational experience! We all had our individual chapters to write although Nick and I did collaborate on one chapter together. It was really rewarding being able to refer to each other and read each other's chapters, so I think although we did write individual chapters, the work as a whole is a combination of all our efforts.

How did you come to work together?

Nick and I approached OUP with the concept of a text, cases and materials book to discover that Ben had already put forward a similar proposal, and so it seemed sensible to collaborate and join forces together.

How did you decide who did what?

The division of labour fell fairly easily. We picked initially our respective subject areas and concentrated on those. There were some chapters certainly that we would have all been very happy to have written, whereas there were others that, perhaps, we felt less inclined to. Overall, it was a very easy division of labour.

Apart from the text, cases, and materials format, how is the book distinctive?

It gave us the opportunity to do two things slightly differently: firstly, to take a very much contextual approach in certain areas. Nick for instance, who dealt with the co-ownership chapters, concentrated very much on sharing homes. Whereas I, in looking at mortgages, was able to look at mortgage regulation and current issues in repossession, which of course, are extremely topical at the moment. Indeed, on the website, I will have to write some updates on the mortgage chapter.

So should a student still read the cases legislation and other materials?

Certainly! The book is a complete resource in the sense that it covers the whole area, but a good conscientious student will need to read the cases. In order to keep the book in reasonable bounds, we had to be very brutal in extracting the cases and the articles that are referred to. There is much more very valuable material, which unfortunately we were unable to include, which students should refer to. What I do think is helpful for a student needing to delve further, is of course, s/he has the case extracts; they have the legislation there in front of them, so it should make their reading much easier. It's like having a guiding hand; it will help them know what they are looking for in their reading.