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Book Review

William Harvey Wiest

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Recommended Citation

William Harvey Wiest, *Book Review*, 20 Clev. St. L. Rev. 437 (1971)
available at <https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/clevstlrev/vol20/iss2/23>

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*Reviewed by Wm. Harvey Wiest**

CURRENT SCHOOL PROBLEMS, Edited by William Carroll, Practising Law Institute, New York City, New York (1969), 248 pp.

The available literature in the area of school law is, at best, sparse and inadequate. *Current School Problems*, which was prepared for distribution at a seminar on school law, provides a starting point for the inexperienced attorney in preparing his initial material in this area. None of the articles included in this compilation were written specifically for it, but it is rather a collection of dissertations, cases, opinions and a bibliography.

The relevancy of the law to school problems was dramatically brought to light by the outbreak of campus disruptions, the unwillingness of public school students to submit to existing standards, and the willingness of public school teachers to strike, in the past four years. School administrators must be allowed a certain area of discretion in the discipline of students, yet the due process clause of the Constitution must not be overlooked. The authority of the school board must remain, yet teachers should have the right, as professionals, to negotiate on wages, hours and conditions of employment. The great diversity of opinions and holdings in case law becomes obvious in the represented material.

The cases included attempt to cover the entire expanse of school law, from the requirement of a hearing before dismissal, to freedom of expression. However, the small number of cases presented greatly limits this book. The dissertations take a rather slanted, liberal position, which very well may be the view of progressive, future courts. The bibliography of dissertations in school law (1952-1968) seems to be the most complete and most comprehensive section.

All in all, *Current School Problems* is a valuable reference source for law students and attorneys inexperienced in the field, but must remain only a bridge, for the novice, between an introduction and a fuller understanding of current school law.

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