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## The Oceans and Environmental Security: Shared U.S. and Russian Perspectives

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some sects an adoption of a child not biologically of the parent is prohibited outright. *Status of Women* contains a lengthy discussion of illegitimate children, and the rights and obligations of the parties. And it extensively addresses the effects of marital impediments on a child's paternity.

In conjunction with this, the author examines the concepts of fosterage and custody of the children. For example, a mother only has custody of her child until the child reaches a certain age, usually 7 for boys and 9 for girls, when the child no longer needs a mother's guidance. The chapter discusses the effects of divorce on these concepts, and the ability of the father to play a role in their young child's life.

As a whole, the work provides a cursory view of Islamic laws. It furnishes the reader with an introduction to a woman's role in Islamic society, however without any real case history and very little modern interpretations of those roles. The Islamic woman appears to be the very object now that she was hundreds of years ago, with little personal power independent of the men in her life. *Status of Women* provides a thorough, but somewhat distressing overview of Islamic women in their role as little more than chattels under these laws.

*Ann Wei*

**THE OCEANS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY: SHARED U.S. AND RUSSIAN PERSPECTIVES;** Edited by James M. Broadus and Raphael V. Vartanov; Island Press; Washington, DC (1994); ISBN 1-55963-236-4; 328 pp. (pbk).

The distinction, and indeed, utility of *The Oceans and Environmental Security* lies largely in its source of origin. This book marks the culmination of research composed between scholars from the Institute for World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences, headed by Vartanov, and the Marine Policy Center of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in the United States, directed by Broadus.

The United States and Russia continue to function as the world's foremost maritime presences. Furthermore, it is possible that the two nations possess more scientific assets pertaining to the understanding of ocean processes than all other nations combined, so viewing oceanic environmental threats from a shared Russian-American perspective is appropriate. This book provides perhaps an unprecedented informational vantage point from which the reader may examine the scholastic thought of two nations who jointly possess commanding potential to chart the post-Cold War course for future oceanic activities and policies, but who nonetheless presently pose vexing concerns to oceanic security.

The term "environmental security" is used to connote "the reasonable assurance of protection against threats to national well-being or the common interests of the international community associated with envi-

ronmental damage." Using this definition as a baseline, *Oceans and Environmental Security* posits that the following practices constitute a threat to oceanic environmental security: land-based marine pollution in the Gulf of Mexico and the Black Sea; living resource problems in the North Pacific; hazardous materials transport; and radioactivity in the oceans. One chapter is devoted to each of these issues. Three additional chapters are devoted to issues concerning: environmental protection for the Arctic Ocean; the Southern Ocean; and the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Chapter two asserts that land-based marine pollution constitutes the gravest problem pertaining to oceanic environmental security. Though land-based sources have been estimated to contribute more than 75% of pollutants entering the sea, a comprehensive global legal regime for land-based marine pollution is unfortunately lacking. This lack of a comprehensive legal regime stands in contrast to vessel-source pollution and ocean dumping. The authors suggest that a regional framework would be the most effective mechanism to control land-based marine pollution. Chapter three discusses three practices concerning living resources which have threatened environmental security in the North Pacific and the Bering Sea: (1) depletion of straddling fish stocks; (2) illegal and preemptive take of anadromous fish species; and (3) incidental take of non-targeted species.

The dangers associated with hazardous materials transport is discussed in chapter four. To promote safe transport of hazardous materials, the authors suggest that a mechanism must be created whereby the ship-owners would bear the full cost of environmental damages. Additionally, insurance markets could contribute to this end not merely by spreading risk, but also by "promoting cost-justified measures" to decrease such risk.

Chapter five proclaims, counter-intuitively, that the presence of radioactivity in the oceans constitutes a less severe threat than problems of petroleum shipping, overfishing, and land-based sources of pollution. Yet, the authors contend that a person who would find this proposition counter-intuitive merely demonstrates the public's widespread (and seemingly unjustified) anxiety about radioactivity caused by misinformation and an inadequate understanding of scientific findings.

The 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is thoroughly discussed in chapter eight. The Law of the Sea Convention is considered an invaluable addition to the legal repertoire of marine environmental protection. The Law of the Sea Convention remains the only global agreement which addresses the full spectrum of issues pertaining to the oceans.

The well-versed reader should find this work cogent and comprehensive while the novice will almost certainly find the scientific language challenging. *Oceans and Environmental Security* presents a distinct and expert insight into the current state of oceanic environmental security

and it should be consulted by environmental lawyers, policymakers, and persons interested in the present condition of the world's oceans.

*Chad Weinstein*

