

## Foreword

### ***The Hon Justice SHP Steward AC***

It is my privilege to write the foreword to this outstanding and important contribution to the legal scholarship of Australia.

While family law in Australia is principally a creature of statute under the *Family Law Act 1975* (Cth), the practice of family law also inexorably demands close consideration of equitable doctrine. From the law of trusts through to injunctions and beyond, the principles of equity find broad application throughout property cases under the *Family Law Act*.

In that respect, the Rt Hon Sir Frank Kitto AC KBE once remarked that: “The lawyer dreads the layman’s question, What is Equity? For no crisp answer will satisfy the earnest inquirer.” Equity is an area of law rich with both ancient history and boundless complexities – as much where it finds purchase in family law matters as anywhere else. The authors’ erudite book now provides the instrumental guidance that practitioners, judges and students alike require in navigating this complex and significant area of law.

I congratulate the authors for this fine work, which I have no doubt will prove of inestimable value in the practice of family law in the years to come.

*The Hon Justice SHP Steward AC  
High Court of Australia*