



معهد الدوحة الدولي للدراسات الأسرية والتنمية

DOHA INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
for Family Studies and Development

عضو في مؤسسة قطر
Member of Qatar Foundation

“The Jurisprudence of Extended Families, Extending Families, and Intergenerational Solidarity.”

April 30 – May 1, 2012

Doha, Qatar

On Monday and Tuesday, April 30 & May 1, 2012, the Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development and the International Academy for Study of the Jurisprudence of the Family convened a “Symposium on the Jurisprudence of Extended Families, Extending Families and Intergenerational Solidarity” in Doha, Qatar. The symposium was also co-sponsored by the Marriage & Family Law Research Project at the Brigham Young University Law School.

The purpose of the Symposium was to explore in a very thoughtful and comparative way the jurisprudential principles (especially the philosophical, conceptual, cultural, and theoretical “first principles”) that underlie the legal recognition of and substantive laws and policies regulating extended family relations (such as between grandparents and grandchildren, cousins, etc.), concerning the extension of legal “family” or family-equivalent status to non-relatives (such as cohabiting partners of parents, children of partners, etc.), and the implications and significance of such laws and social phenomena for intergenerational solidarity. Relevant topics concerned financial, relational, public policy, historical, theoretical, sociological and social aspects of these and related developments, proposals, and relevant major contemporary issues that they raise.

The symposium on “The Jurisprudence of Extended Families, Extending Families, and Intergenerational Solidarity,” brought together a group of leading scholars of family law and legal theory from many different regions, representing several

traditions of thought and belief, and explored the principles that underlie family relationships which extend beyond the “nuclear” unit of parents and their children, reaching out to encompass grandparents, grandchildren, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, and even, in many cultures’ understandings, remote ancestors. Special attention was devoted to the place of children within the extended family.

The symposium concerned subjects of the most profound scholarly, social, and practical interest. It offered opportunities for reflection and discussion in the company of thoughtful and distinguished thinkers from a variety of cultures, disciplines, and expertise.