1. General themes and issues

O’Sullivan & Hilliard’s The Law of Contract (9th edn)
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Publisher: Oxford University Press  Print Publication Date: Apr 2020
Print ISBN-13: 9780198853176  Published online: Sep 2020
DOI: 10.1093/he/9780198853176.003.0001

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Titles in the Core Text series take the reader straight to the heart of the subject, providing focused, concise, and reliable guides for students at all levels. This chapter offers an introduction to the law of contract and contract theory. It explains that the law of contract provides the ground rules for what is needed for a contract to be valid and enforceable and for resolving disputes. It introduces the reader to key themes and concepts in the law of contract, and considers the crucial borderlines with others legal subjects, such as tort, restitution and public law. This chapter also considers some international developments beyond the domestic law of contract.

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