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A Human Rights Revolution in English Criminal Procedure: Whether, Whence, Whither, and So What?

Professor Paul Roberts

Institute of Criminology Public Seminar Series

Thursday 30th April 2009, 5.30pm

Seminar Room B3, Institute of Criminology,
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA

English criminal procedure law and practice are currently undergoing major changes with potentially far-reaching practical and philosophical implications. Human rights norms and discourse are significant ingredients in this ongoing realignment of English criminal procedure. Drawing on concrete illustrations relating, for example, to methods of criminal investigation, the presumption of innocence, and trial procedures for presenting and challenging witness testimony, this lecture presents a preliminary sketch of the principal contours of the 'human rights revolution' in English criminal procedures, and articulates questions for further discussion. Where are we now? How did we get here? Where are we going? And what does it all amount to, within the broader contexts of criminal justice policymaking and criminal procedure reform?

Paul Roberts is Professor of Criminal Jurisprudence and Co-Director of the LLM programme at the University of Nottingham School of Law, which he joined as a lecturer in 1993. His principal subjects are Evidence and Criminal Justice, including philosophical, socio-legal, comparative and international perspectives. He is a graduate of the Institute of Criminology (MPhil 1991).

This seminar is part of the IoC Public Seminar Series, and is open to all interested in attending. If you wish to be added to the seminar mailing list, please contact: Joanne Garner, on:

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