TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER ONE

Definition of Marriage: Is ‘Same Sex Marriage’ A Marriage?
Hanna Ambaras Khan and Nora Abdul Hak

Introduction ................................................................. 15
Definition of Marriage ................................................. 15
The Law in Australia .................................................... 18
The Law in the United States ......................................... 21
The Law in Malaysia ..................................................... 29
Conclusion ...................................................................... 34

CHAPTER TWO

Women in Shariah: With Respect to Polygamy and Divorce
Murni Wan Mohd Nor and Nora Abdul Hak

Introduction ................................................................. 37
Women According to Quran and Sunnah ....................... 38
Polygamy in Islam ......................................................... 42
Divorce in Islam .......................................................... 46
Women in Other Civilizations, Religions, Countries and Cultures
..................................................................................... 51
Conclusion ...................................................................... 53

CHAPTER THREE

Polygamy Issues in Muslim Countries: The Legal Provisions and Practices
Ameera A. Abdul Malek and Nora Abdul Hak

Introduction ................................................................. 55
Forms of Marriage ......................................................... 57
Polygamy in Various Religions ....................................... 58
Islam .............................................................................. 58
CHAPTER FOUR

Issues in Eloped Marriage (Kawin Lari) Among Muslims in Malaysia
Noraini Md. Hashim

Introduction ......................................................... 79
Definition .......................................................... 81
Background of Kawin Lari ............................................. 82
Types of Marriage in Islam ........................................... 86
  ‘Urūf Marriage ......................................................... 87
  Sirrī Marriage ........................................................ 88
Issues Pertaining to Kawin Lari ..................................... 89
  Wali’s consent ......................................................... 89
  Wali of marriage according to priority ......................... 92
  Wali mujbir (guardian with power of compulsion) ............. 92
  Right of the woman in choosing her husband to be .......... 94
  Wali ‘Adhal (Wali who refuses to be a wali) .................... 95
  Juristic views on wali ‘adhal ..................................... 98
  Wali Hákim .......................................................... 100
  Two Marhalah ......................................................... 102
  The Issue of Kuf‘u: Equality of Status ......................... 105
Conclusion ........................................................... 107
CHAPTER FIVE

Resolution of Family Disputes: Mediation Vs Litigation
Nur Ezan Rahmat, Nora Abdul Hak, Nurdianawati Irwani Abdullah and Noraini Md. Hashim

Introduction................................................................. 111
Mediation and Its Advantages ...................... 112
The Mediator(s) .............................................................. 114
Principles and Application of Mediation .......... 116
Conclusion................................................................. 119

CHAPTER SIX

Family Mediation and Other Dispute Resolution Processes
Distinguished
Nora Abdul Hak

Introduction................................................................. 121
Family Mediation............................................................ 121
Litigation................................................................. 123
Conciliation ............................................................... 125
Counselling/therapy .................................................... 126
Arbitration ................................................................. 128
Mediation-arbitration .................................................... 129

CHAPTER SEVEN

Alternative Dispute Resolution in Pakistan in Settling Family Disputes
Mian Kauthar Hussain and Nora Abdul Hak

Introduction................................................................. 131
Domestic (Pakistan) Laws and Rules............ 132
West Pakistan Family Court Act 1964........ 132
Muslim Family Law Ordinance 1961 .......... 133
The Small Claims and Minor Offences Courts Ordinance of 2002 ........................................ 133
SBNP Local Government Ordinance of 2001.... 134
Arbitration Act 1940 (X of 1940) ..................... 134
View of the superior courts of Pakistan .......... 135
Hakam and Tahkim in Islamic law .................. 136
  Occasion of revelation (Sabah al-Nuzul) ........ 136
  Appointment ........................................ 137
  Objective of Hakam .................................. 137
  Legal Power of Hakam ................................. 138
Observation ............................................. 140
Requirements of Qualification and Procedure... 140
Prerequisites of Tahkim ................................. 141
Conclusion and Suggestions ......................... 142

CHAPTER EIGHT

Establishment of a Unified Family Court in Malaysia: Implication on the National Family Policy
  ‘Ain Husna Mohd. Arshad and Roslina Che Soh @Yusoff

Introduction ............................................. 145
Family Court Defined ................................. 147
Overview of the Administration of Family Law. 147
  The Civil Courts ...................................... 147
  The Shariah Courts .................................. 149
The Need for a Unified Family Court ............ 150
Family Courts in Other Countries .............. 154
  Family Court of Singapore ........................ 154
  Family Court of Australia .......................... 157
  Family Court of Egypt ................................ 160
Conclusion .............................................. 162

CHAPTER NINE

The Role of Family Support Division (BSK) in Helping Muslims Single Parent in Malaysia: An Overview
Nora Abdul Hak, Najibah Mohd Zin, Roslina Che Soh and Noraini Md. Hashim

Introduction ............................................. 165
Child Support Scheme in other jurisdictions..... 166
CHAPTER TEN

The Impact of CEDAW on Muslims Marriage and Family: The Malaysian Perspective
Nora Abdul Hak

Introduction...........................................175
An Overview of CEDAW..............................176
Marriage and Family................................180
CEDAW and National Family Policy.............185

Conclusion...........................................186

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Pre-Marital Gift and Its Position after Divorce
Norliah Ibrahim

Introduction...........................................187
Provision Relating to a Matrimonial Property...188
Pre-marital Gift......................................190
Pre-marital Gift after Divorce......................191
Conclusion..........................................195
CHAPTER 2

WOMEN IN SHARIAH: WITH RESPECT TO POLYGAMY AND DIVORCE

By

Murni Wan Mohd Nor and Nora Abdul Hak

Introduction

It has become a norm in today's modern world that the world Islam is associated with many misconceptions, such as terrorism, fanaticism, extremism, injustice, inequality and other negative adjectives. All of these notions only cause the average person to be misled. The focus on Islam has become more prominent, especially after the September 11 attacks. Much literature is written about Islam but whether the writings are accurate, remains to be seen. An area that most believe to be familiar with is the family law of Muslims. Many come up with the conclusion that Islamic Family Laws are biased, unequal and unjust. Most are of the opinion that women have very little rights and are subjected to the whims and fancies of men, with no way to protect them or seek redress.

A proper study of our Islamic Family Laws will prove that the situation is not what it appears to be. Cultural practices must be distinguished from the teachings of Islam. Contrary to popular belief, Islamic Family Law has revolutionized the rights and elevated the status of women far more than any religion and man-made law ever did. What must also be considered is the fact that these changes brought by Islam came at a