

Preface

My dissertation for LLD (or JSD) *Att beskriva rätten* (To Describe Law), which was written under my bachelor surname of Andréasson, was presented for public examination on Nov 4, 2004. Since then the text has been developed in two separate directions. On the one hand, three of the chapters have been made more accessible to students of jurisprudence and have been included in the second edition of the textbook *Rättsfilosofi, samhälle och moral genom tiderna* edited by Joakim Nergelius. On the other hand, the whole dissertation has been revised, translated and published as the present book.

In the time that has passed since my dissertation, many things have changed. On the personal level, my friend and tutor, Aleksander Peczenick, was sadly taken away from my circle of colleagues. In contrast to that sad event, I have spent two nine-month periods on paternity leave, raising my two children, Selma and Bernhard. This past year, I have decided to move from theory to practice and have started working in a court of law.

During my work on the dissertation, I had the opportunity to spend a rewarding term at Rutgers University in Camden, NJ visiting Professor Dennis Patterson. Since this book is a continuation of that project, it feels appropriate to repeat my thanks to Professor Patterson and STINT (The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education) for making that visit possible.

I thank Daniel Ogden of Uppsala University for his efforts to make the English of this book as proper as possible. At the same time I also want to thank the Emil Heijnes Foundation and The Department of Law at Uppsala University for providing the funds for the linguistic review and printing of the book.

I express my gratitude to Bo Wennström, Thomas Bull, and my other colleagues at Uppsala University for the inspiration and support they have given me. I also want to repeat my thanks to those colleagues who provided me with constructive criticism regarding the drafts of the dissertation presented at seminars in Uppsala and Lund.

Most of all I want to thank my family and friends for support and inspiration, and my wife, Esther, and my children for their patience, since much of the work done on this book took place at those times that normal people spend with their family.

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