



## Our Lives Before the Law: Constructing a Feminist Jurisprudence (Paperback)

By Judith A. Baer

Princeton University Press, United States, 1999. Paperback. Condition: New. New.. Language: English . Brand New Book. According to Judith Baer, feminist legal scholarship today does not effectively address the harsh realities of women s lives. Feminists have marginalized themselves, she argues, by withdrawing from mainstream intellectual discourse. In *Our Lives Before the Law*, Baer thus presents the framework for a new feminist jurisprudence—one that would return feminism to relevance by connecting it in fresh and creative ways with liberalism. Baer starts from the traditional feminist premise that the legal system has a male bias and must do more to help women combat violence and overcome political, economic, and social disadvantages. She argues, however, that feminist scholarship has over-corrected for this bias. By emphasizing the ways in which the system fails women, feminists have lost sight of how it can be used to promote women s interests and have made it easy for conventional scholars to ignore legitimate feminist concerns. In particular, feminists have wrongly linked the genuine flaws of conventional legal theory to its basis in liberalism, arguing that liberalism focuses too heavily on individual freedom and not enough on individual responsibility. In fact, Baer contends, liberalism rests on a...



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