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Part 1--The Nature of Law

The Editors

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The Nature of Law

How the devil do you reconcile all that we experience and have come to expect in this world with your assumption that there is a moral order?

Sigmund Freud, *Psychoanalysis and Faith*

Natural law implies that there is no moral order. But such a notion, Stephen Yancher and Amy Fisher Smith write, is dismissed by gospel teachings. In part 1 of this book, Yancher and Smith discuss further differences between gospel law and the concepts of natural law that often underlie psychotherapy. They address the far-reaching implications of each for counseling and describe a gospel-oriented psychotherapy that explores the moral dimension of choice and operates within Christ-centered values.

Lane Fischer presents a Latter-day Saint perspective on law that avoids two common traps—the belief that law is uniform and therefore applicable in all situations and the opposing belief that law is always relative, never universal. These beliefs provide contrary answers to two issues—where law comes from and how it applies. In resolving these issues, Fischer reconsiders the traditional conception of infinity. He also addresses the lawful nature of the ecologies that God has organized.