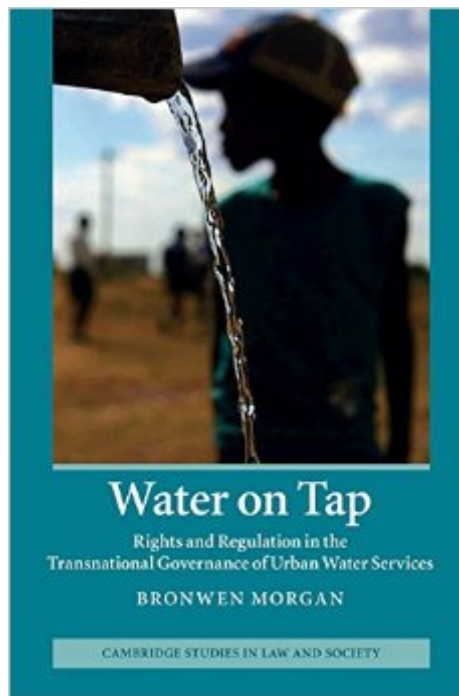# Water On Tap: Rights And Regulation In The Transnational Governance Of Urban Water Services (Cambridge Studies In Law And Society)

Synopsis

In the 1990s and mid 2000s, turbulent political and social protests surrounded the issue of private sector involvement in providing urban water services in both the developed and developing world. Water on Tap explores examples of such conflicts in six national settings (France, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, South Africa and New Zealand), focusing on a central question: how were rights and regulation mobilised to address the demands of redistribution and recognition? Two modes of governance emerged: managed liberalisation and participatory democracy, often in hybrid forms that complicated simple oppositions between public and private, commodity and human right. The case studies examine the effects of transnational and domestic regulatory frameworks shaping the provision of urban water services, bilateral investment treaties and the contributions of non-state actors such as transnational corporations, civil society organisations and social movement activists. The conceptual framework developed can be applied to a wide range of transnational governance contexts.

Book Information

Series: Cambridge Studies in Law and Society

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Cambridge University Press; 1 edition (June 6, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1107008948

ISBN-13: 978-1107008946

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Best Sellers Rank: #5,106,857 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #77 in Books > Law > Administrative Law > Public Utilities   #3388 in Books > Textbooks > Law > Constitutional Law #7012 in Books > Law > Constitutional Law > General

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