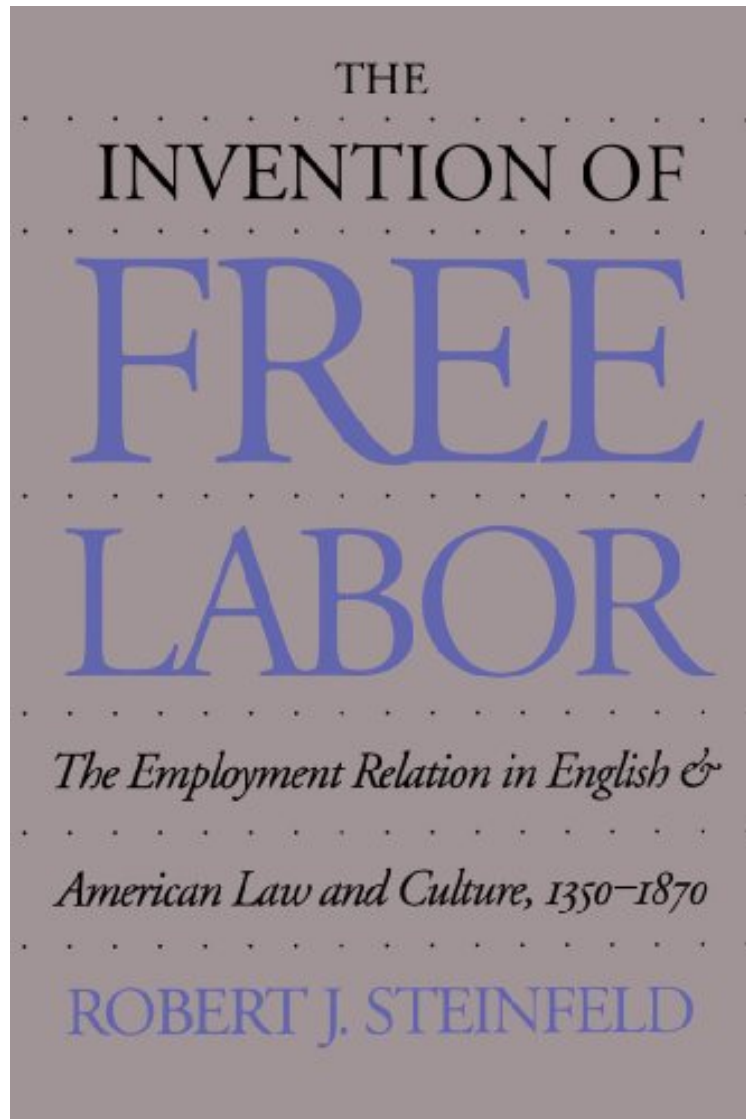


[Free] The Invention of Free Labor: The Employment Relation in English and American Law and Culture, 1350-1870 (Studies in Legal History)

## The Invention of Free Labor: The Employment Relation in English and American Law and Culture, 1350-1870 (Studies in Legal History)

Robert J. Steinfeld

ebooks | Download PDF | \*ePub | DOC | audiobook



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2057859 in eBooks 2014-02-01 2014-02-01 File Name: B00ZVEJR90 | File size: 28.Mb

Robert J. Steinfeld : The Invention of Free Labor: The Employment Relation in English and American Law and Culture, 1350-1870 (Studies in Legal History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Invention of Free Labor: The Employment Relation in English and American Law

and Culture, 1350-1870 (Studies in Legal History):

Examining the emergence of the modern conception of free labor--labor that could not be legally compelled, even though voluntarily agreed upon--Steinfeld explains how English law dominated the early American colonies, making violation of all labor agreements punishable by imprisonment. By the eighteenth century, traditional legal restrictions no longer applied to many kinds of colonial workers, but it was not until the nineteenth century that indentured servitude came to be regarded as similar to slavery.

A superbly researched and analyzed work of historical and legal scholarship, tracing the existence and disappearance of varying legal constraints that limited the economic freedom of laborers. With his analysis of legal statutes, court cases, and writings of contemporaries in England and America, Steinfeld has provided the detail to reopen a most important issue of political, social, and economic change. This book will be of interest to all studying the nature of the employment relation and its political implications.--Stanley L. Engerman, University of Rochester  
Essential reading for labor historians, historians of social welfare and of the history of political and economic thought, as well as for legal historians generally. . . . No one else has shown the real changes which occurred in people's lives when they began to think of themselves as 'employees' rather than 'servants.'--Hendrik Hartog, University of Wisconsin Law School  
A thorough and persuasive analysis of the evolution of the legal status of workers, which effectively blends legal with social history and illuminates the lively controversies of our own time concerning the rights of individual employees.--David Montgomery, Yale University  
As at once a work of synthetic legal history and a thought-provoking series of arguments about the nature of legal change, it is a book that deserves to be read carefully by all early-modern social and legal historians.--American Journal of Legal History  
[The book] is thoughtful and quietly stimulating. . . . Both for its own particular ideas, and as an example of what labor law history is beginning to achieve, it is a book to be recommended.--Labor History