

Justice Sarmiento and State Protection to Labor: The Rule of Compassionate Law

Hans Leo J. Caddac

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In this Note, the Author pays homage to the legacy of Associate Justice Abraham F. Sarmiento, particularly emphasizing his adherence to the rule of compassionate law as best exemplified by his consistent law-abiding interpretation of Philippine labor laws. As a final way to show respect for Justice Sarmiento, the Author reiterates that Justice Sarmiento's juristic outreach really served to sensitize labor officials and management for, as *Ka Pepe* had once intimated, we cannot abolish socio-economic inequality, but we can change human relations so that "we can see to it that whatever inequalities remain in our society are not caused by our relations (or actions towards) each other."