**Media and Entertainment Law by Ursula Smartt 4th ed (2020)**

**Endorsement:**

This book acts as a trusted guide in these uncertain times. The title ‘Media and Entertainment Law’ does not do justice to the contribution that Ursula Smartt makes. Of course, on one level, this is a book for students of law. But it is much more than that; it puts law into its historical, political and social context. The breadth of coverage is wide, taking in privacy, freedom of expression, technology, regulation, defamation, intellectual property and much more. The depth of coverage is striking. For example, before getting to an analysis of Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, Smartt takes us through not only the historical development of free speech and press freedom, but also the theoretical foundations of media freedom. Smartt is unafraid to reach strong conclusions and provides analyses of questions, such as, “is trolling a criminal offence?” As well as the strict legal answer, Smartt gives us context, which leads her to conclude that internet service providers must do more to control online abuse and social harm. This book acts as a beacon. It helps readers to understand not only what the law is, but also *why* the law is what it is. In a fast-changing world, that is an invaluable contribution.

**Sir Keir Starmer QC, MP**