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#### Why Do Boards Exist? Governance Design in the Absence of Corporate Law

*Comments The Good, The Questionable, and The Possible Opportunities* 



## The Good

### Interesting Historical Data



#### One Size of Corporate Governance Does Not Fit All



#### Not All Directors Are the Same





International Corporate Law and Financial Market Regulation

### Independent Directors in Asia

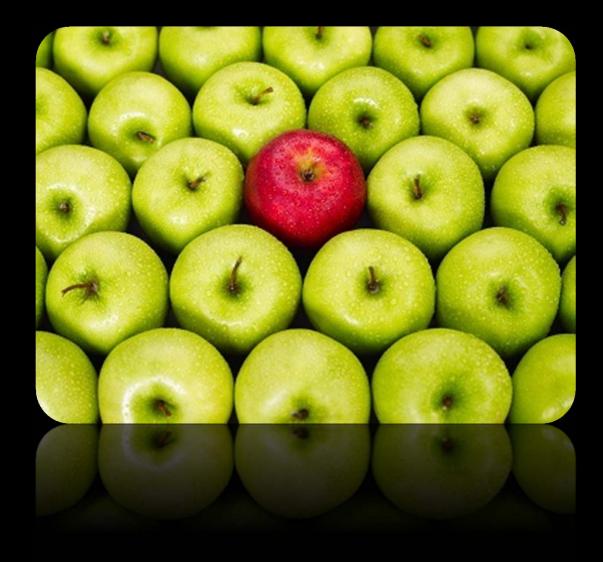
A Historical, Contextual and Comparative Approach

Edited by Dan W. Puchniak, Harald Baum and Luke Nottage



### The Questionable

#### How Much of An Outlier is the Historical Setting in Practice?



"Firms in our setting can choose or dispense with a board and also determine its *function and authority* free from legal constraints which is in sharp contrast to modern legal regimes" "Statutory law in any jurisdiction not only mandates the board but also *prescribes its powers and duties*"

#### Corporate Law and Governance Rules are Increasingly Flexible and Optional



The Rise of Alternative Business Vehicle Blurs the Distinction with the Historical Setting?

Separate Legal Personality

Limited Liability



#### Boards in Some Controlled Companies Functionally Similar to "No Board Option"

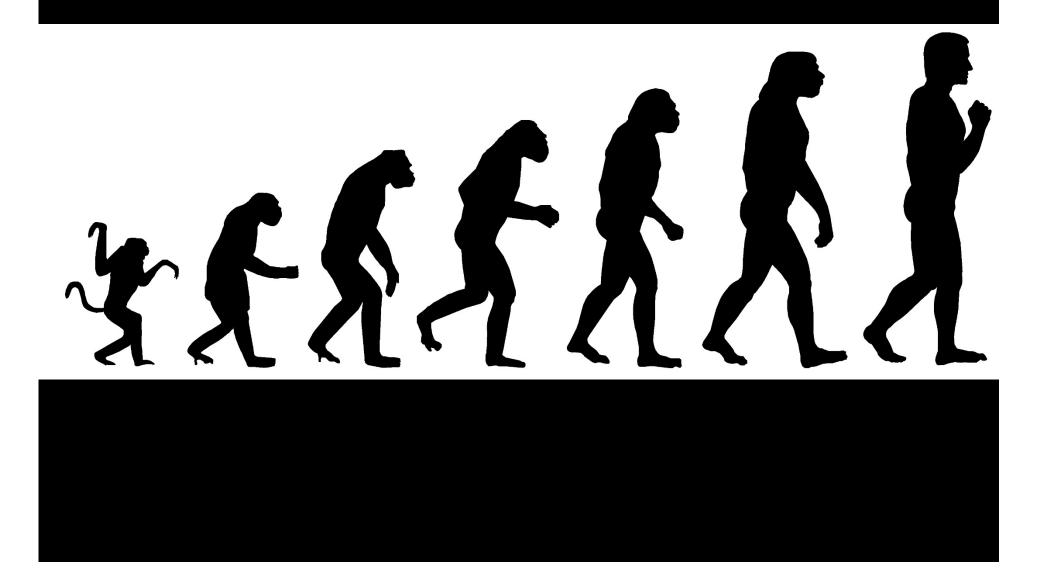


#### American/Delaware Corporate Law and Governance A Poor Comparator



### **Possible Opportunities**

#### Evidence that Business Organizational Law is Evolving in the Right Direction



# A Challenge to the Prescriptive Nature of US/Delaware Corporate Law



