

# Introduction to Tort Law – Negligence Basics

## What is Tort?

A tort is a civil wrong that causes harm or loss to a person, for which the law provides a remedy, typically in the form of compensation.

## Key Features of Tort Law

- Deals with private harm (not public offences like crimes)
- Primary remedy is compensation (damages)
- Focuses on duty, breach, and resulting harm

## Negligence – Core Structure

### Negligence = Duty of Care + Breach + Damage

Duty of Care → Legal obligation to avoid causing harm

Breach → Failure to meet that standard

Damage → Actual harm suffered

### Example (Simple)

A shop owner leaves the floor wet without warning signs.

A customer slips and gets injured.

- Duty: Keep premises safe
- Breach: No warning / cleaning
- Damage: Injury

✓ This can amount to negligence.

### Key Case

### ***Donoghue v Stevenson (1932)***

- Established the “Neighbour Principle”
  - We must take reasonable care to avoid acts/omissions that could harm those closely affected by our actions.

### □ **How to Answer Law Questions (IRAC Method)**

Issue → What is the legal question?

Rule → What law applies?

Application → Apply law to facts

Conclusion → Final answer

### □ **My Teaching Approach**

I focus on:

- Concept clarity through simple examples
- Structured answer-writing techniques
- Connecting theory with real-world situations

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