



**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

Department of Engineering

CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING MASTERS DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

What causes construction litigation?

Litigation is expensive, and the construction industry is contentious. If we learn what causes litigation, we stand a better chance of avoiding it, and in so doing saving the costs associated with it.

This dissertation interrogates almost 1,000 High Court judgments, spanning the last 10 years, to identify the reasons why the parties in each case came before the court. It then categorises those reasons to elucidate patterns and trends. Where possible, it identifies concomitant opportunities for modifying behaviours in order to avoid the more common causative events.

The aim is to identify any simple, cheap ways to avoid expensive, time-consuming litigation.

**Daniel Shaw
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