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RECENT BOOKS

CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY:
A SURVEY OF RECENT BOOKS

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ACQUAINTANCE RAPE—UNITED STATES—BIBLIOGRAPHY


This bibliography includes scholarly or scientific works published primarily since 1980. The lengthy annotations state the purpose, the method, and the findings for each book or article listed.

ART THEFTS


Drawing on a wide array of sources, the author not only considers the motives of thieves, but also the ways that art theft is socially organized. He discusses the types of theft that are committed, the methods thieves employ to locate art and gain access to it, and the way they launder stolen art. The relationship between art theft and organized crime, especially drug traffickers, is investigated, along with art vandalism and vandal behavior. The book concludes with a consideration of policies to curb art crime.


BURGLARY—MISSOURI—SAINT LOUIS


Based on interviews with active burglars, this book strives to present the offender’s perspective on the process of burglarizing a residence. It considers motivations for the decision to burglarize a dwelling, examines how the offender executes the break-in, discusses strategies for searching a residence, and details the ways in which the burglar disposes of stolen goods.

CHILDREN AS WITNESSES


The product of ten years of research and investigation, this book examines the reliability of testimony given by children in court proceedings, and it recommends reforms in the legal process that will protect child witnesses from trauma and ensure accuracy. The child witness is more prone to memory-fade, suggestibility, and fantasy than the adult witness. Yet, the legal system tends to treat these witnesses the same. Analysis of a number of actual trials, including the McMartin Pre-School prosecution in California and the Morgan-Foretich custody battle, indicates the shortcomings of the current system. Early videotaping of a child’s eyewitness account is one remedy included in the proposed statutes listed in appendix 1.

CORRECTIONS—UNITED STATES


Focusing on programs for juveniles and adolescents, Ted Palmer reviews twenty different types of correctional intervention, including confrontation, diversion, counseling, and probation. The purpose is to assess whether those programs reduce recidivism. Palmer also presents a blueprint for the design of future research studies, a blueprint that contains new analytical strategies, specific procedures, and sets of specific variables to be tested.

The author argues against the position that the institutions of "the new penology," such as the much-touted Elmira Reformatory, represented a significant advance in the humane treatment of criminals and youthful offenders. Instead, the author contends that the new penology not only reflected the racism and sexism in the social order in general, but legitimized the repression of the lower classes. The author draws on seven inmate case histories to illustrate that the "March of Progress" was nothing more than a reversion to the ways of old, and concludes that the adult reformatory movement promised benevolent reform but delivered benevolent repression—a pattern that the author sees as continuing to this day.

CRIME AND THE PRESS


Media reports, articles, and books do not represent full or complete interpretations of reality. Instead, they consist of various viewpoints designed to capture the attention and imagination of the public. News about crime and justice is especially subjected to and inseparable from the political, economic, and social struggles of the time. The essays in this anthology expose the biases of the media images, and they suggest replacing these images with reasoned ones offered by criminologists, who could make the news more representative and less distorted of the social reality of crime.

CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR—UNITED STATES


The authors integrate the perspectives of the offender and the victim in order to create a theory that focuses on the criminal act. They use census data, NCS data, and telephone surveys to assess the social distribution of crime, the predictors of crime rates and the changes in crime rates over time, and the predictors of an individual's risk of victimization.
Criminal Justice, Administration of—United States


The author proposes a nonpunitive but effective system of controlling criminality that is based upon conflict resolution rather than repression. Historical roots for such a system are discussed, as are the future consequences and obstacles of a negotiation based system.


As the title suggests, this book concerns itself with forecasting the dangerousness and risk at every stage of the criminal justice process. From the history of risk assessment, through using risk as a determinate of level-of-custody decision making, to current trends in risk assessment, the book strives to function as a resource about risk predictors and dangerousness assessment devices for both practitioners and theorists.

Criminal Law—United States


This book is a tribute to Gerhard O. W. Mueller, a teacher, scholar, and international civil servant who has been influential in the area of international criminology. In addition to the biographical essays, there are chapters addressing international criminal law, criminal procedure and human rights, uses and methods of punishment, and criminology and forensic psychiatry.

Criminology


This book sets out to reveal precisely what "criminology"—the scientific study of crime—means by setting out the main elements of the subject. The Handbook was conceived as a means of satisfying the demand for a thorough, scholarly, and readable guide to criminology and the criminal justice system that was felt to exist among students, researchers,
and professionals working in the criminal justice system.

**DEVIANT BEHAVIOR**


The book advances the idea that all forms of deviant, criminal, reckless, and sinful behavior have one thing in common—the tendency to pursue immediate benefits without concerns for long-term costs. The chapters seek to illustrate how various forms of deviance relate to one another and can be explained by a common theory involving self-management. The editors argue that the idea of self-control challenges the psychological concept of aggression and provides a more useful alternative for understanding deviant behavior. The book advances the proposition that it is a waste of intellectual effort and public funds to treat different forms of crime and deviant behavior as distinct problems. Different crimes, when studied collectively, may have the same causes and, hence, the same cure.

**DISPUTE RESOLUTION (LAW)—UNITED STATES**


Transcending mere criticism of the trial system, this author examines nonadversarial and less adversarial remedies in American and foreign dispute resolution procedures. Why is an adversarial trial viewed as a just trial? To answer this question, the strategies of the attorneys, such as those in the Rodney King trial, and the viability of the jury are analyzed. A vision of the future is offered, complete with a blueprint for reform.

**DRUG ABUSE—UNITED STATES**


Drug abuse and crime is a problem that has existed in America since before the revolution. What connects these two occurrences? This author believes that drug abuse and criminal activity constitute overlapping lifestyles which are linked by a common or related set of contextual conditions, choices, cognitions, and change strategies.
**Drug Traffic—United States—Finance**


Investigative reporter Ann Woolner takes the reader behind the scenes of an investigation that eventually shut down the Medellin cocaine cartel's most important financial operation. Operating out of the jewelry districts in Los Angeles and New York City, “La Mina”—the Mine—moved more than $1.2 billion in illegal drug profits through U.S. banks and businesses. The FBI and DEA agents in New York, Los Angeles, Atlanta, and Miami competed to crack the case.

**Female Offenders**


This edition reflects the changes in attitude, behavior, and goals of women in law enforcement, in the legal system, and in corrections since 1980. The data included in the earlier editions are expanded and updated. History, myths, stereotypes, legislation, and issues in lawsuits involving women are all discussed.

**Firearms—Law and Legislation—United States**


The author conducts an extensive historical analysis of the history of gun-ownership in seventeenth century England and explains how the English duty (and later right) to own a weapon was transferred to the United States and transformed into the Second Amendment.

**Justifiable Homicide**


In her comprehensive philosophical discussion of the principles relevant to self-defense as a moral and legal justification for homicide, Dr. Uniacke explores issues such as whether individuals have a positive right to self-defense;
what limits there are for such a right, if it exists; and whether the use of force extends to the defense of others. In the end, the author establishes a unitary right of self-defense and defense of others which grounds the permissibility of the use of necessary and proportionate defensive force against culpable and non-culpable, active and passive, unjust threats.

**Liability (Law)—United States—Cases**


Renowned defense attorney and Harvard law professor, Alan Dershowitz discusses a modern day form of vigilantism, the abuse excuse. The abuse excuse describes the exceedingly popular defense strategy to admit to the charges but argue that the offender takes no legal responsibility for the crime because he or she is also a victim. By accepting excuses, such as the battered woman syndrome, rape trauma syndrome, and urban survival syndrome, Dershowitz believes that society condones outrageous behavior and anarchy. He discusses the cases and excuses of some famous people, including O.J. Simpson, Woody Allen, President Clinton, the Menendez brothers, Lorena Bobbitt, and Tonya Harding.

**Local Transit Crime—United States**


People, goods, and information flow through transportation hubs, bringing communities and cultures together. Just as these facilities can link the positive aspects of a community to those of another, they also can expose those communities to the risks, threats, and actuality of crime. This book comprehensively deals with issues such as commuter rail and subway crime, airport crime, transportation terrorism, and the homeless and mentally ill in urban transportation centers.

On June 12, 1963, in Jackson, Mississippi, civil rights crusader Medgar Evers was gunned down as he exited his car. Byron de la Beckwith, a fanatical racist, was charged with the murder, but was not convicted due to mistrials. Thirty years later, the state of Mississippi reindicted Beckwith and eventually brought the seventy-three year-old man to trial. This book chronicles that event and the larger story of how Mississippi confronted its past.


Serving as a textbook for a sociology of murder class, this book examines the types of murderers and their motivations. The chapters discuss partner homicide, the murder of children, hate groups and homicide, mass murder, serial murder, terrorism and homicide, sex-related homicide, and children who murder. The motivations, methods, and selections of victims vary for each type of homicide and for each personality of a killer.


This book explores the economics of illicit drug markets, the connection between these markets and other crime, and the adjustments these markets make when faced with changes in drug enforcement. Focusing specifically on the most recent escalation of drug enforcement during the period from 1984-1989, the authors argue that effective drug policy is only possible if we realize that increasing drug enforcement can be a "tragedy of the commons" because criminal justice resources are diverted from other uses and many unintended consequences are generated by politically popular drug enforcement initiatives.
Police—United States


The focus of this book is law enforcement agencies' recruitment and retention of persons with the qualities and skills needed by a contemporary police force. Noting the absence of a systemized personnel recruiting program at most municipal police agencies, the authors cover everything from announcing vacancies to examining the future trends in police hiring.


The authors analyze and interpret recent scholarship in an attempt to formulate a theory for the origin and evolution of the police function. Looking at a variety of kinship-based societies and state societies, they find that the development of this function parallels and depends upon the development of the state. Further, the police act as both an agent of the people and an agent of the dominant class. The authors' theory is applied to present day problems with policing.

Political Corruption


This work argues that the current conflict-of-interest programs are inadequate to eliminate government corruption, and that special controls should be installed to detect and deter unethical behavior.

Prisoners—Disease


The essays in this book examine the daily experiences of prisoners in eleven different countries, including the United States, Canada, Germany, and Norway. Topics such as drug usage, homosexual practices, and the availability of condoms and bleach, are discussed in the hope of gaining an understanding of the best practices to manage and con-
trol HIV and AIDS in prisons.

## Sentences (Criminal Procedure)—United States


Professor Bondeson presents a socio-legal and criminological study of the impact of the conditional sentence, ordinary probation, and probation with institutional treatment. Do these alternatives to imprisonment resocialize the offenders? A recidivism study assesses the outcomes of various sentences and reveals a result opposite to the one intended by the legislators who wanted to improve resocialization. Bondeson concludes with a discussion of two principles for effective reform: a theory of least possible intervention and a general welfare ideology.


If the goal of mandatory sentencing and sentencing guidelines was to decrease crime, the goal has not been achieved, according to Lois G. Forer, former trial court judge. What has been achieved is massive prison overcrowding, an expenditure of millions of tax dollars on prisons, and crowded court dockets. Forer urges Congress and the state legislatures to repeal mandatory sentencing laws and sentencing guidelines; to end capital punishment; to devise stricter gun control laws; to revise the penal codes to include new forms of criminal activity and to better reflect the seriousness of some crimes; to establish clear policy goals for sentencing; and to enact laws which require due process hearings for the early release of prisoners.

## Sexual Crimes—United States


Based upon scholarly research, popular books and articles, and hundreds of interviews with therapists, lawyers, psychologists, psychiatrists, criminologists, law enforcement personnel, accusers and the accused, this book refutes the claims of recovered memory proponents. There is no controlled scientific support for the idea that memories of trauma are
routinely banished into the unconscious and then reliably recovered years later. Dr. Loftus' own research has shown that memory can be manipulated and fabricated. She paints a moving picture of the human cost associated with the misuse of repressed memory.

**Trials (Rape)—Indiana—Indianapolis**


Special prosecutor Garrison tells the story of how he and the state of Indiana tried Mike Tyson for his crimes against Desiree Washington. Garrison describes his trial tactics and strategies, as well as the role that the media played in the rape case. This behind the scenes look fills in many of the details not addressed by the reporters and legal analysts.

**Trials (Murder)—United States**


William Marshall Rice, the founder of Rice University, was found dead in his New York City apartment on September 23, 1900. The death was soon characterized as murder, and a young lawyer, Albert Patrick, was the prime suspect. Friedland reconstructs this murder case which raised the following issues: the influence of the popular press, the purchasing of expert witnesses, the legality of the death penalty, the advantages of wealth, and the problems associated with multiple appeals. The mysteries surrounding this case will keep the reader wondering whether Albert Patrick was guilty or not guilty of murder.


In 1986, Polly Nelson, a new associate at the Washington, D.C. law firm Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, was given a formidable pro bono project: keep Ted Bundy from going to the electric chair. In this autobiographical account of her three years of work, Nelson discusses her struggles with the legal system and with Bundy himself.
**Undercover Operations—Handbooks, Manuals, etc.**


This book is designed to provide an inside track to those setting up and running sting programs. Lacking a heavy theoretical content, the book is designed for practitioners and strives to provide law enforcement personnel without much experience in sting programs with a practical guide as to how to set one up.

**White Collar Crimes—United States**


The author presents the results and implications of a study that focused on the antitrust offenses of large American manufacturing firms during a five year period, 1981-1985. The empirical data were followed up with personal interviews with federal government officials responsible for antitrust regulation and enforcement. The decision to engage in a violation is found to be influenced by both external factors and governmental policies.


Why is white-collar crime treated differently than conventional property and violent crimes? According to Poveda, myths about white-collar crime have reduced the visibility and seriousness of this crime in the public’s mind, despite the fact that the harm caused by white-collar crime is comparable to the harm caused by conventional crimes. His book discusses the double standard issue, the problem of explaining white-collar crime, the history of legislation in this area, and possible solutions to the problem.


While a study of the Second Law Against Economic Crime in West Germany (1975-1986) is the main focus of this book, a number of comparisons are made to white collar crime in the United States during the same period. Public
mistrust of the powerful institutions and agents in both countries evolved into a movement led by the media and individual moral entrepreneurs (i.e. Ralph Nader and Klaus Tiedemann). Lawyers also played an important role in the movement, often echoing the public sentiment. The movement in both countries sought control and punishment of the powerful offenders; however, the responses of the two governments differed.

**Women Murderers**


The ten essays in this book cover such topics as battered women who kill their abusers, mothers who kill their children, the female serial killer, and women who kill due to pre-menstrual tension or post-natal depression. The stories of some infamous female killers, such as Britain's longest-serving woman prisoner Myra Hindley and Australia's lesbian vampire killer Tracey Wigginton, are told in detail, and perhaps not surprisingly, these cases received and still receive lots of media attention and coverage. "Why?" is the question lurking in every essay of this book.