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RECENT BOOKS

CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY: A SURVEY OF RECENT BOOKS

JULIET CASPER SMITH*

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION—CASE STUDIES

COLIN EVANS, *THE CASEBOOK OF FORENSIC DETECTION: HOW SCIENCE SOLVED ONE HUNDRED OF THE WORLD'S MOST BAFFLING CRIMES* (NY: John Wiley & Sons, 1996) 310 pp.

Forensic detection can be described as the science of catching criminals. Evans illustrates how this science has developed and evolved through the use of American and European court cases. Both the British Home Office Forensic Laboratory and the F.B.I. Laboratory have had profound influence on forensic detection methods and methodology. Some of the methods addressed include ballistics, DNA typing, explosives, serology, voiceprints, toxicology, and psychological profiling. An appendix lists the pioneering forensic scientists and their cases.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, ADMINISTRATION OF—UNITED STATES

JEFFREY H. REIMAN, *AND THE POOR GET PRISON: ECONOMIC BIAS IN AMERICAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE* (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1996) 191 pp.

The criminal justice system fails to curb the crimes of the poor and fails to even treat the crimes of the rich as criminal acts. This discriminatory treatment cannot be justified

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in terms of the extent of damage caused by the crime. Reiman believes the crimes committed by the wealthy—fraud, occupational death and disease, environmental contamination—cause as much, if not more, personal and financial damage as the common street crimes. Yet, the system does little to prevent these crimes. In fact, the system, according to Reiman, is designed to maintain crime, not reduce it.

DRUG TRAFFIC—UNITED STATES

GEORGE F. RENGERT, *THE GEOGRAPHY OF ILLEGAL DRUGS* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1996) 147 pp.

Examining the distribution of illegal drugs at both the wholesale and retail levels, Rengert determines the costs of the drug trade. His suggestions for controlling the drug trade focus on the market and its economic forces. Attacking the sales center through hot spot policing, community cooperation and social pressure is one policy recommendation.

FORENSIC PATHOLOGY—CASE STUDIES

CYRIL H. WECHT, *GRAVE SECRETS: A LEADING FORENSIC EXPERT REVEALS THE STARTLING TRUTH ABOUT O.J. SIMPSON, DAVID KORESH, VINCENT FOSTER, AND OTHER SENSATIONAL CASES* (NY: Dutton Books, 1996) 276 pp.

Wecht, a physician and a lawyer, has worked for thirty-five years as a forensic scientist. He shares his insights regarding the scientific evidence in a number of high-profile events, including the O.J. Simpson murder trial, the Oakland Earthquake of 1989, the shooting death of Black Panther Fred Hampton, and the stand-off in Waco. The crime scene itself may be the most important piece of evidence in reconstructing the crime and in determining the cause of death. Unfortunately the lack of standardization in techniques and methods often compromises the crime scene and evidence collected.

IMPRISONMENT

PRISONS 2000: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE ON THE CURRENT STATE AND FUTURE OF IMPRISONMENT (Roger Matthews and Peter Francis, eds.) (NY: St. Martin's Press, 1996) 269 pp.

A number of countries are experiencing significant change with regard to imprisonment. These twelve original articles look at prisons in America, Britain, Greece, Russia, and elsewhere in Europe. Three paradigms from which to view imprisonment are put forth, with the authors tending towards a progressive one that advocates social justice and prisoners' rights.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURTS

FAIRNESS TO DEFENDANTS AT THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT: PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN THE DRAFT STATUTE AND ITS PROTECTION OF DEFENDANTS' RIGHTS (NY: Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, 1996) 16 pp.

The Lawyers Committee for Human Rights promotes the establishment of an International Criminal Court with the highest international standards of fairness and due process. Such a court would prosecute and punish serious human rights violations. The International Law Commission's draft statute does not provide enough protection to defendants, according to this Committee. The statute needs to be strengthened with regard to the right to counsel, the right to a speedy trial, the right to be present at trial, the right to cross examine and call witnesses, and the right to not testify.

INSANITY—JURISPRUDENCE—HISTORY

DANIEL N. ROBINSON, WILD BEASTS AND IDLE HUMOURS: THE INSANITY DEFENSE FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE PRESENT (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1996) 299 pp.

A distinguished historian of psychology and professor at Georgetown University, Robinson traces the legal conceptions and notions about insanity from pre-classical Greece to the present time. Meshing the teachings of law, religion, medicine, and psychology, he is able to illustrate the changing view of human nature and human conduct. Some

events particularly important to the development of the insanity defense include the American witch trials and the appearance of experts at the trials, the shift of seventeenth century jurists such as Coke and Hale to secular and scientific definitions of insanity, and the rise of medical jurisprudence in the nineteenth century with the celebrated cases of *Hadfield* and *McNaughtan*.

JUVENILE JUSTICE—ADMINISTRATION OF—CALIFORNIA

EDWARD HUMES, *NO MATTER HOW LOUD I SHOUT: A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF JUVENILE COURT* (NY: Simon & Schuster, 1996) 399 pp.

A court order granted this author access to the otherwise closed system of juvenile justice. His book represents the observations gleaned from a year studying the juvenile courthouses of Los Angeles, California. He presents "unvarnished accounts" from the children, the families and the professionals within the system. He particularly examines the differences, advantages, and disadvantages of juvenile court versus adult court.

LAW—PHILOSOPHY

JUSTICE AND INJUSTICE IN LAW AND LEGAL THEORY (Austin Sarat and Thomas R. Kearns, eds.) (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 1996) 173 pp.

Drawing upon a number of disciplines, including history, law, anthropology, and political science, the authors in this collection of essays examine the relationship between law and justice. Some of the specific issues and practices discussed are the injustice of policing, deportation, judicial supremacy, and pornography. Each philosophic argument advanced is supported by concrete examples from history.

MICHIGAN STATE PRISON—HISTORY

CHARLES BRIGHT, *THE POWERS THAT PUNISH: PRISON AND POLITICS IN THE ERA OF THE "BIG HOUSE", 1920-1955* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1996) 326 pp.

Hypothesizing that the prison may be a "window into state politics", the author studies Jackson Penitentiary, a maxi-

imum security prison in Michigan, in order to show a connection between political practices and prison management policies. The interplay between the outside reform pressures and the inside traditions of control is explored historically.

MONEY LAUNDERING

JEFFREY ROBINSON, *THE LAUNDRYMEN: INSIDE MONEY LAUNDERING, THE WORLD'S THIRD-LARGEST BUSINESS* (NY: Arcade Publishing, 1996) 358 pp.

Robinson identifies four factors common to money laundering operations: ownership and source of money is concealed, the form of the money is converted to reduce bulk, the conversion trail is obscured, and the operator exerts constant control over the process. Often the operators rely on consumer protections, such as bank secrecy and attorney-client privilege, to shroud their identities. Robinson presents twenty or more case studies where laundering is used to avoid asset forfeiture laws, evade taxes, defraud shareholders, or bribe foreign officials.

POLICE—SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR—UNITED STATES

JOHN M. VIOLANTI, *POLICE SUICIDE: EPIDEMIC IN BLUE* (Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas, 1996) 113 pp.

Written by a retired twenty-three year police veteran, this work uncovers a number of risk factors that contribute to the high rate of police suicide. The law enforcement occupation is filled with stress, trauma, danger, and firearms. Using case studies and recent research, the author suggests that the risk factors may be controlled through the use of intervention programs and awareness training.

POLICE—UNITED STATES—SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS UNITS

ROBERT L. SNOW, *SWAT TEAMS: EXPLOSIVE FACE-OFFS WITH AMERICA'S DEADLIEST CRIMINALS* (NY: Plenum Press, 1996) 307 pp.

After a lengthy killing spree at the University of Texas in 1966, special police response teams began to crop up across the country, mostly in medium to large sized departments.

These teams are specially trained to handle dangerous situations, such as hostage negotiation, hijackings, and gang fights. There are currently no national guidelines for when and for what a SWAT is to be called. In addition, there are no reporting requirements for SWAT involvement. The author believes that the special units are involved more and more because violence is on the rise and the violence is more high-tech. He sees the need for such teams within rural and municipal police departments.

PRISON RIOTS—UNITED STATES—CASE STUDIES

BERT USEEM ET AL, *RESOLUTION OF PRISON RIOTS: STRATEGIES AND POLICIES* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996) 223 pp.

By studying eight prison disturbances in depth, this author seeks to identify ways to minimize the cost of violent disturbances and limit the extent of damage. Half of the disturbances studied lasted less than a day, and half lasted more than a day. Actions taken before, during, and after the riot are analyzed for effectiveness. The author believes that “[h]ow a prison operates under normal circumstances will shape how, and how well, it restores order in a disturbance.”

TRIALS (ARSON)—ARIZONA

ROGER PARLOFF, *TRIPLE JEOPARDY: A STORY OF LAW AT ITS BEST—AND WORST* (Boston: Little Brown, 1996) 440 pp.

This engaging narrative of a true crime story centers on a fire in a family house that killed two small girls. The girls' father became the prime suspect. His lengthy battle with the court system is detailed, incorporating statements from official transcripts, court orders, motions, police and fire reports, and personal interviews. The father always maintained his innocence, even when faced with a death sentence. Legal issues, such as adequacy of legal counsel and due process, are clearly illustrated, along with the validity and application of the death penalty.

TRIALS (MURDER)—CALIFORNIA—LOS ANGELES

CHRISTOPHER DARDEN WITH JESS WALTER, *IN CONTEMPT* (NY: Harper Collins, 1996) 387 pp.

A fifteen year veteran of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Darden was one of the prosecutors in the O.J. Simpson murder trial. He presents a candid look at the trial and his own performance. Branded an Uncle Tom, Darden describes a battle against racism which led him on a journey of self-discovery. He firmly believes Simpson killed his ex-wife Nicole and Ronald Goldman and holds the criminal justice system in contempt for the verdict rendered.

ALAN M. DERSHOWITZ, *REASONABLE DOUBTS: THE O.J. SIMPSON CASE AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM* (NY: Simon & Schuster, 1996) 238 pp.

Known for his appeals work for a number of famous clients, Dershowitz was the "Dream Team's" constitutional law expert and brief writer. His book is aimed at the observers of the trial who believe that Simpson killed Nicole Brown and Ronald Goldman and that the jury's verdict was a miscarriage of justice. He seeks to show these observers how the jury could properly, and legally, reach a verdict at odds with public opinion. Dershowitz addresses various questions, including why the police lie, what role race played, and whether the case was decided before the trial began.

POSTMORDEM: *THE O.J. SIMPSON CASE* (Jeffrey Abramson, ed.) (NY: Basic Books, 1996) 240 pp.

Twenty-six scholars ponder the Simpson case and its implications for race relations, domestic violence, legal reform, ethics, and history. The scholars specifically address reasonable doubt, the differing perspectives and reactions of Blacks and Whites, the lack of interest in the issue of domestic violence, the DNA evidence, the "Dream Team" resources, the jury system, cameras in the courtroom, the rights of the accused, and the trial's place in history. The appendix offers a "quick primer on the civil trial" against Simpson for wrongful death.

ROBERT L. SHAPIRO, *THE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE: A DEFENSE ATTORNEY'S BRIEF ON THE O.J. SIMPSON CASE* (NY: Warner Books, 1996) 363 pp.

Shapiro, a partner in a Los Angeles law firm, describes how he assembled the "Dream Team" and planned the defense's strategy in the Simpson murder trial. He attempts to answer the questions of fact, law, and ethics raised by the case, in addition to detailing the case's effect on his own life. For Shapiro, the Bill of Rights and Rules of Professional Conduct are essential to the America justice system, and it is often the duty of the defense attorney to protect these rights and rules. Shapiro believes that "[l]egally, the result of the trial is correct."

GERALD F. UELMAN, *LESSONS FROM THE TRIAL: THE PEOPLE V. O.J. SIMPSON* (Kansas City: Universal Press Syndicate, 1996) 223 pp.

A professor and former dean at Santa Clara University School of Law, Uelman served as a member of Simpson's defense team. His account of the trial focuses on the lessons that students of the law and practicing attorneys may learn from one of the many "trials of the century." The Simpson trial offers insights into the role of the grand jury, the exclusionary rule, cameras in the courtroom and the media's influence, jury selection, and the price tag for justice. Uelman does not believe that this trial was an accurate depiction of legal system.

VICTIMS—PSYCHOLOGY

SHARON LAMB, *THE TROUBLE WITH BLAME: VICTIMS, PERPETRATORS, AND RESPONSIBILITY* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1996) 244 pp.

This psychology professor believes that "victimization should not mean absolution from all responsibility." She sees a common pattern of perpetrators blaming others and victims blaming themselves, especially with crimes of rape, sexual abuse and domestic violence. How can society break this pattern? While attempting to answer this question, the professor raises other pragmatic questions intended to provoke the reader.

VIOLENT CRIMES—UNITED STATES

WILLIAM J. BENNETT ET AL, *BODY COUNT: MORAL POVERTY. . AND HOW TO WIN AMERICA'S WAR AGAINST CRIME AND DRUGS* (NY: Simon & Schuster, 1996) 271 pp.

Moral poverty, defined as growing up without the guidance of loving, responsible adults capable of teaching the young right from wrong, is believed by these authors to be the root cause of the escalating crime and drug problem in the U.S. Further, they believe that punishment has a moral purpose, which is "to exact a price for transgressing the rights of others". Using empirical data to support their premises, the authors place crime and drugs into a cultural context, a context that emphasizes the role of religion.