Reviews of Recently-Published Academic Books in Criminology & Criminal Justice

March 2019 Reviews

1. **Impeachment: what everyone needs to know.** Gerhardt, Michael J. Oxford, 2018. 249p bibl index, 9780190903664 $74.00, 9780190903664 $16.95, 9780190903671

The subtitle—What Everyone Needs to Know—is descriptive of the book’s scope. This is particularly relevant in the current political climate, in which Trump’s political adversaries regularly threaten to impeach him. Gerhardt (UNC-Chapel Hill) leaves no stone unturned. The political, constitutional, legal, procedural, and historical dynamics of the impeachment process are addressed. Moreover, impeachment in the states and international examples are brought into the mix. This is not a slight accomplishment in a relatively brief book. There are numerous insights into the impeachment process, e.g., it is a legal and political proceeding; the grounds for impeachment, i.e., what are high crimes and misdemeanors; and who may be impeached. In the final analysis, impeachment is a political process with constitutional, legal, and political constraints on the advocates for impeachment and its targets. Public opinion is the ultimate deciding factor in high profile impeachment proceedings. Although public opinion may be instrumental in the launch of the impeachment process, the process itself provides an opportunity for the target of impeachment to reshape public opinion to his/her advantage. This book is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the impeachment process as both a check on the abuse of power and a political weapon. Summing Up: Essential. Lower-division undergraduates through faculty.


The supposed righteousness of retribution has been a driving force of the legal system, without fully equating philosophical thinking that critically delineates the contours of blame and responsibility. Kelly (Tufts) challenges the prevailing retributivist theory of criminal justice, demonstrating the lack of alignment between law and morality. Arguably, the mismatch between criminal guilt and moral blame presents a moral problem for a punitive society that takes a judicial approach to social problems and criminals become second-class citizens for the rest of their lives. In the era of mass incarceration and its collateral damage, Kelly charges that it is time to revise norms that stigmatize and criminalize and address the consequential disconnect between the legal criteria of guilt and the moral criteria of blame. The Limits of Blame calls for a transformation in philosophical, legal, and public thinking about criminal justice. The book is beneficial in the areas of philosophy, jurisprudence, criminal law, penology, and criminal justice reform. It is a must read for all people vested in better understanding the current state of the criminal justice system, from over-policing to mass prosecutions and mass incarceration. Summing Up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

3. **Decriminalizing domestic violence: a balanced policy approach to intimate partner violence.** Goodmark, Leigh. California, 2018. 204p bibl index, 9780520295568 $85.00, 9780520295575 $29.95, 9780520968295 $29.95

This book will be controversial. Goodmark (Univ. of Maryland) argues that domestic violence has been overcriminalized to the detriment of victims and society. The author begins with a thorough history that notes that, historically, domestic violence was considered a family matter, not a justice system matter, with victims often treated with callous disregard by justice system actors. In the 1980s, a number of
factors, including successful law suits and an increasing awareness of victim’s rights, led to substantial reform. The resultant justice system response was to criminalize all aspects of domestic violence, regardless of the wishes of the victim or the severity of the offense. The author, who is well regarded as an expert in this area, argues for the use of the justice system for severe habitual offenders and for the development and use of treatment, alternative housing, and public education programs. This book is well written and within the grasp of readers with beginning college-level reading skills. It is well referenced and adequately indexed. Recommended for libraries serving departments of criminology, criminal justice, counseling, psychology, social work, or sociology as part of their basic holdings.

Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

Baker (Smith College) examines the history of the youth sex trade in the US, giving careful consideration to the race, gender, and social class of affected youth and to the impacts on policies and practices across time. Through detailed analyses of court cases and development of both responding agencies and government policies, Baker examines the prevalence of common youth sex trade narratives (which primarily focus on white, middle class women) versus the lived realities of youth involved in the US sex trade (varying across race, social class, gender, and sexual identity). Although Baker finds that progress has been made through “collaborative adversarial moments” from treating youth as criminals to empowered advocates for themselves, the author finds that media portrayals continue to play to stereotypes, and government policies tend to treat youth as criminals or victims. This book could be used in the disciplines of history, sociology, political science, education, and media studies. It could be paired with one or more of the documentaries described in the book to help students better understand firsthand experiences of affected youth and the agendas of the developers of each documentary.

Summing Up: Recommended. Advanced undergraduates and above.

During the height of Watergate in 1974, Black (Yale) wrote a slim volume called Impeachment: A Handbook. It examined the law and the history of presidential impeachment in the United States. This book, updated by Columbia Law School professor Phillip Bobbitt, is a follow-up to that volume. It begins with a concise and thorough treatment of the procedures of impeachment, then asks what, exactly, an impeachable offense is. From here, the book examines the role of the courts in impeachment and the history of impeachment since Nixon. The book concludes with an examination of seven “seductive fallacies” about impeachment (e.g., impeachment is a political question, not a legal one) and a brief consideration of several specific problems (e.g., burglary and obstruction) that might trigger impeachment. Impeachment amounts to a citizen’s guide to the impeachment process that (thankfully) is anything but “dumbed down.” This book is concise yet comprehensive, accessible yet scholarly, and impassioned yet non-polemical. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All readership levels.

The US criminal justice system has spent decades attempting to reduce crime with a philosophy rooted largely in punishment. In Confronting Underground Justice, Kelly (sociology, Univ. of Texas, Austin) and
Pitman (US district judge for the Western District of Texas) analyze how plea bargaining, prosecution, public defense for indigent offenders, and pretrial procedures and policies have contributed to mass incarceration, and how these tactics could be reformed to reduce incarcerated populations and thus budgets devoted to incarceration. The authors highlight problems with the criminal justice system and potential solutions, not only by citing statistics but also by interviewing lawyers and judges. The authors seek to redefine the roles of the individual actors in the justice system. In addition they clearly outline the challenges to implementing criminal justice reform and suggest incentives to inspire attitudinal change toward reform in lawmakers and the general public. Because it describes the problems in the US criminal justice system without using complex statistics or jargon, this book will be invaluable for criminal justice practitioners and the general public as well as for students and scholars of psychology, sociology, criminology, criminal justice, law enforcement, and social work. The book concludes with a full bibliography, detailed notes, and an exhaustive index. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All readers.

7. Independence corrupted: how America’s judges make their decisions. Schudson, Charles B. Wisconsin, 2018. 272p index, 9780299320300 $44.95

“So long as we may have an independent judiciary,” John Rutledge Jr. asserted in 1802, “the great interests of the people will be safe.” Schudson, a former Wisconsin trial and appellate judge, agrees. To protect against tyranny, he argues, judicial independence is “decision-making embodied by 1) genuine and full inquiry, 2) intellectually honest reasoning, and 3) humility.” Forces that interfere with a judge’s ability to decide in this way are “corrupting.” These forces are numerous, beginning with each judge’s biases and continuing through pressures from outside groups, the media, and political parties. Schudson illustrates the ways in which each of these may affect decision-making by discussing his own cases, thus providing anecdotal evidence of forces that are difficult to study systematically and supplementing general books on judicial decision-making, such as Posner’s How Judges Think (Harvard, 2010). Schudson concludes that in contemporary society, corrupting forces are ubiquitous. The strongest come from pressures associated with political campaigns and elections, and these have worsened in recent years. Schudson argues, persuasively, that appointed judges are better situated to resist corruption. The founders, who gave federal judges lifetime tenure, would agree. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.


Especially since the Ferguson episode in 2014, allegations of unwarranted use of violence and deadly force by the police have been highlighted in the US. Siegel (Indiana Univ.) has produced an exceptionally sophisticated exploration of the nature of policing in relation to “violence work.” The author draws core inspiration from Stuart Hall’s critical criminological classic Policing the Crisis (1978). She focuses principally on the police as an institution that legitimates the use of violence on behalf of state and corporate interests. This study transcends the typical focus on urban police and conventional crime to explore such phenomena as the state department’s Office of Public Safety, the policing of the Alaska pipeline, policing on behalf of Saudi Arabian interests, and the development of criminal justice programs in higher education. The “intertextuality” of policing, or the interconnections between policing and the state, the military, and private enterprise, is demonstrated. Societal transformation into a fairer social order—an ambitious agenda—is necessary to resolve the issue of violence. The style of discourse here
means this book will be more accessible to academic intellectuals than to undergraduate students of policing. Summing Up: Recommended. Graduate students, researchers, and faculty.

9. **Modernism and the law.** Spoo, Robert E. Bloomsbury Academic, 2018. 196p bibl index, 9781474275811 $88.00, 9781474275804 $29.95, 9781474275828 $26.95

Spoo (Univ. of Tulsa) explains that the “socio” plays a definitive role in sociolegal studies, and modernism helps us explore critical legal issues. Spoo examines the aspects of modernism in the law, noting there is a two-way road regarding how law affects society and how society affects law. Each of the five chapters provides contextual inquiries. As Spoo discusses Oscar Wilde and obscenity, it is clear he is dissecting ways in which the law helps provide legitimacy to the power of hierarchies in place. Of course, this also means that those legal hierarchies are able to maintain their structures of power for additional periods of time, even during times of social upheaval. Ultimately, this means that the notion of modernism and law needs to broaden its reach, particularly by addressing the philosophical underpinnings of law. For legal scholars interested in the general topic of modernism and the law, this book provides some detailed and dense information that may help serve as an introduction. What Spoo does in the book is provide a balance between the theoretical foundation necessary to best understand modernism and numerous examples of how it connects to law. For those interested in understanding the study of socio- and sociolegal studies and beyond, this book is invaluable. Summing Up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.


Murder matters. While one’s chances of being victimized in a premeditated homicide are remote, media harping makes this topic dramatic and attention-grabbing. Sociologists Levin (emer., Northeastern Univ.) and Wiest (West Chester Univ.) offer an important and readable discussion of the deadly practice. Murder is not spontaneous homicide but generally occurs after planning that may have begun over a year earlier. Lots of examples buttress their argument. Murderers feel an allure toward their deeds, obtaining pleasure from the planning and execution of their crimes even if it results in their own suicides. Some premeditated murderers signal their intentions; others don’t, making prevention dubious. Still, some measures can help: examples include building better communities, reducing gang violence (yes, this is doable), and reducing sensational reporting. The authors make shrewd observations along the way, such as that post-incident security changes following school incidents "are reactionary and unlikely to thwart any serious threats." Yet good news abounds. Premeditated homicide is on the decline in tandem with the more common spontaneous killings. But mass murders (four or more victims) and juvenile gang killings have risen in recent years, stoking public fears for safety. Summing Up: Recommended. General readers and undergraduates.

11. **The conservative revolution of Antonin Scalia.** ed. by David A. Schultz and Howard Schweber. Lexington Books, 2018. 376p bibl index, 9781498564489 $120.00, 9781498564496 $114.00

The death of Antonin Scalia on February 13, 2016, marked the end of one of the most consequential careers in American legal history. In 30 years on the Supreme Court, Scalia introduced, articulated, and defended a pathbreaking school of constitutional (and political) thinking, doing so with a jaunty and caustic writing style that was utterly distinctive. This edited volume, featuring 14 chapters by scholarly contributors from the fields of political science, criminal justice, and law, assesses Scalia’s legacy. The chapters include appraisals of Scalia’s jurisprudence, an examination of the impact of his confirmation
hearing, and analysis of his role as the avatar of originalism, the idea that the provisions of the Constitution should be interpreted in a way that reflects the intentions of the drafters of those provisions. A controversial doctrine, originalism itself is scrutinized throughout the book, and also in one dedicated chapter. The volume concludes with a contemplation of whether Scalia was a “great” Supreme Court justice, a complicated question about a seminal intellectual thinker on the Court, but one who was not always able to assemble a coalition of colleagues to sign onto his judicial philosophy. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

Originalism is a legal philosophy holding that words in documents, especially the US Constitution, should be interpreted as they were understood at the time they were written. The doctrine has been primarily embraced in modern times by conservative judges, scholars, and politicians in reaction to the “living constitutionalism” philosophy of more liberal judges. Although all constitutional judges and scholars agree that the original meaning as the founders understood it should be considered in modern-day interpretation, the originalism debate is about how strong a role founding-era evidence plays and whether this is a more legitimate method of interpretation. The premise of Originalism as Faith is that originalism is often merely a pretext for reaching a politically desirable result. Segall (Georgia State) argues that all judicial decisions are driven primarily by a judge’s own personal values. He provides a detailed analysis of the history of originalism, and discusses significant Supreme Court cases, especially those by Scalia and Thomas, justices most associated with originalism. This is a thoughtful, well-researched text, and a significant contribution to constitutional history and legal theory. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

February 2019 Reviews

1. **Children and crime. Tang, Connie M.** Rowman & Littlefield, 2018. 315p bibl index, 9781442257528 $90.00, 9781442257535 $44.00, 9781442257542 $41.50
Unable to find a textbook that thoroughly examines children’s roles as victims and as perpetrators of crimes, Tang (Stockton Univ.) combined research and theory to write Children and Crime. Beginning with three headline cases, the book seeks to answer a persistent question: “How do child maltreatment and juvenile delinquency relate?” This question is far too complex for one answer, and Tang’s textbook guides students through an exploration of the topic. The initial chapter introduces the three memorable cases. The following 10 chapters are divided into explorations of child as victim, then child as perpetrator. A final synthesizing chapter illuminates what link exists between child maltreatment and juvenile delinquency. Tang includes discussion of important contextual issues, including race, gender, and the juvenile justice system. Each chapter features learning outcomes, tables and figures, critical thinking questions, and a glossary. With its notable synthesis of theory and research, Children and Crime is more than a resource for students; it is valuable for researchers, policy makers, and practitioners in fields such as social work, psychology, education, and criminal justice. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

Hernández (Fordham) is not only the codirector of the Center on Race, Law & Justice. She is also a mixed-race Afro-Latina, and her personal story as told in the preface helps enrich and inform this highly recommended work. She begins by examining the notion that increases in the numbers of multiracial Americans will eventually end racism in this country. Many have suggested, therefore, that old civil rights laws based on black and white should be reformed to address the "unique harms" suffered by multiracial people. But she notes that multiracial people are themselves subject to discrimination and racism, because they are seen as non-white. Thus, she concludes, it is unnecessary to reform civil rights laws that are based on a binary black-white distinction. Helpfully, she devotes chapters to multiracial discrimination in employment, education, housing and public accommodations, and the criminal justice system. Ultimately, she proposes to analyze issues of race discrimination by use of the sociopolitical race lens, which says that racial categories are "neither a biological nor a cultural construction but ... a group based social status informed by historical and current hierarchies and privileges." Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

3. The will to punish. by Didier Fassin with Bruce Western, Rebecca M. McLennan, and David W. Garland; ed. by Christopher Kutz. Oxford, 2018. 194p index, 9780190888589 $29.95, 9780190888619

Punishment in the US is a central consequence of criminal offense. Yet punishment itself merits pitiless analysis: this slim, sagacious volume provides it. Fassin, an anthropologist at France's School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, has spent a decade conducting field research on police, justice, and prison issues. His Berkeley Tanner Lectures on punishment are critiqued here by three diverse scholars from the US: Western (sociology), McLennan (history), and Garland (law). Fassin has a solid grasp of carceral inequities in the US and wonders if, when comparisons are made, Brazil or South Africa might be more appropriate analogs to the US than, say, France. As the title of the lectures suggests, Fassin argues that punishment too often is not a judicial inevitability but reflects a political will that shuts out other considerations. The punished cohorts and their socially disconnected circles are too politically removed to organize and demand change. As a result, practices flourish that should be intolerable in a democracy. Fassin's discussions make interesting points. For example, McLennan estimates that the US accounts for a third of the world's female prisoners, and that 170,000 babies have been born in prison since 2000. Summing Up: Recommended. Graduate students, researchers, and professionals.

4. The schoolhouse gate: public education, the Supreme Court, and the battle for the American mind. Driver, Justin. Pantheon Books, 2018. 564p index, 9781101871652 $35.00, 9781101871669

In 1954 the US Supreme Court handed down a landmark decision in Brown v. Board of Education. In this case, the Warren Court established that racial separation within the school system was unconstitutional. This case awakened many Americans to the fact that the Supreme Court could direct how the public education system should respond to matters that affected students and parents. In The Schoolhouse Gate, Driver (Univ. of Chicago Law School) brings together public education cases that touch on constitutional rights. The book is unique in that the subject it treats is commonly addressed in law review journals. Driver discusses the subject in seven chapters, each devoted to a particular constitutional issue. Each case receives a lengthy and readable discussion. The seven chapters are bookended by an introduction and conclusion, and Driver provides extensive notes. This is a book for all who study or are interested in public education, constitutional history, or the Supreme Court. It is also
an important research tool. Summing Up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals; general readers.

5. Corporations are people too: (and they should act like it). Greenfield, Kent. Yale, 2018. 280p index, 9780300211474 $28.00
Corporations are considered “persons” under the law, but should they have the same rights as people? The legal theory of corporations is incredibly complex. The US Supreme Court didn’t make it any clearer when it ruled in the Citizens United case that corporations do have the same free speech rights as individual citizens. Greenfield (Boston College) unpacks the implications of that case, and other significant decisions, in this very readable treatise. This insightful analysis is an excellent introduction to some of the complexities of corporate citizenship, and a thoughtful discussion of what corporate personhood should look like. Rather than taking sides in the current political debate, Greenfield addresses the realities of corporate citizenship. He argues that corporations should be held more accountable for their actions, and so they must have some constitutional rights, although these need not be the exact same rights as people have. A particularly engaging section of the book discusses shareholder theory and whether the interests of shareholders should be prioritized over other stakeholders, such as employees and customers. This thoughtful book should have wide appeal. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

6. Unintended consequences in transitional justice: social recovery at the local level. Abe, Toshihiro. L. Rienner, 2018. 241p bibl index, 9781626377448 $38.50, 9781626377448 $38.50
In this short book, Abe (Otani Univ., Japan) draws on a number of empirical cases in Africa, Asia, and Europe to ascertain why transitional justice programs are deemed failures or successes. He focuses on local responses to national or international transitional justice programs (truth commissions, ad hoc international tribunals, hybrid courts, gacaca courts, and International Criminal Court cases), and the presence of signs of local self-recovery from social and political fragmentation. Abe’s analysis describes a diversity of unintended outcomes of transitional justice programs by highlighting the tension between local responses and national goals. This seven-chapter book adds theoretical insights that would interest both transitional justice scholars and practitioners. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

Hall (Notre Dame) proposes a new approach to study the behavior of US Supreme Court justices, which he calls the "psychoeconomic approach." He first summarizes the leading approaches to decision-making by the justices, which include legalist models such as originalism and textualism, social-psychological approaches such as the attitudinal model, and economic or strategic models. He then develops his psychoeconomic model, which posits that justices' decision-making behavior is based on two factors: who they are and what they want. By using personality psychology, one can determine who the justices are in terms of their personalities, and by incorporating these personality traits into an economic model, he concludes that justices "pursue multiple goals, and their personality traits determine the relative importance of those goals." Those familiar with the stages that a case goes through at the court will appreciate that he breaks application of this model into chapters devoted to each stage, including screening, assignment of opinions, bargaining, final votes on the merits, and the decision to file a concurring or dissenting opinion. Whether or not one agrees with Hall's model, this is a
8. **Law and performance.** ed. by Austin Sarat, Lawrence Douglas, and Martha Merrill Umphrey. Massachusetts, 2018. 250p index, 9781625343543 $90.00, 9781625343550 $29.95, 9781613765968

In the 1990s legal scholars Jack Balkin and Sanford Levinson sparked a thoughtful dialogue around the performative nature of law. They recognized a three-pronged relationship among institutions that create law, institutions that interpret law, and persons influenced by the institutions both creating and interpreting law. This tripartite relationship is not unlike the relationship of text, performer, and spectator in live theater and performance. Law and Performance offers a contemporary expression of Balkin and Levinson's ideas. In the first essay Julie Stone Peters elegantly bonds 19th-century prison tourism with consumption of prison performance in the present reality-television age. Subsequent essays include Ryan Hartigan’s “This Is a Trial, Not a Performance!” which clarifies the courtroom collision of indigenous memory and Canadian colonialism; considerations by Ann Pellegrini and Karen Shimakawa and by Catherine Cole of the performativity of law outside legitimate courtrooms; and Lara Nielsen's examination of “silence as profusion and polyvocal sign,” through case studies of photography, dramatic literature, film, and installation art. The collection closes with Joshua Chambers-Letson’s “Twelve Notes on Ferguson,” a moving analysis of persistent state violence. This collection is a must read for scholars of performance studies as well as legal studies researchers and practitioners.

**Summing Up:** Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.


Haber (Univ. of Haifa, Israel) examines the blurred distinction between criminal and civil infringements. Using history, law, sociology, and politics, Haber explains how shifting attitudes on criminal copyright infringements have caused attitudes on culture in the US to shift. The book provides historical and legal foundations for the reasoning on these societal and legal changes. The bulk of the book examines how politics has impacted the legal components of copyright infringement. The disproportionate administration of the criminal copyright, according to Haber, has created a society where retribution is at the forefront of the discussion, which means punishment becomes a discussion when correction would be more appropriate. Haber finishes the book with deliberate, reflective, and detailed examples of how the cultural discussion of copyright infringement has shifted drastically over time. There are many books on the copyright law, but not one that provides such an interdisciplinary approach to understanding the impact of criminal copyright law on American society. Criminal Copyright is an important book in the field best suited for anyone generally interested in issues related to copyright law, criminal copyright, and the role of legal culture in the field. **Summing Up:** Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

January 2019 Reviews


Traffic stops are the most frequent means of contact between law enforcement officers and the general public, and routine traffic stops are often used as a pretext to search vehicles for contraband such as
illegal weapons or drugs. The authors, all scholars of criminal justice or government, provide a thorough examination of traffic stops that adds to the breadth of research already in existence, combining a literature review with their own groundbreaking work studying routine traffic stops in North Carolina. The authors clearly outline what differentiates racial disparities from racial profiling and provide clear examples for what constitutes biased policing and differential policing. The biggest contribution the authors make is how they examine well over a decade of traffic stops. Their study of over 20 million traffic stops provides a clear picture of policing during traffic stops in North Carolina. The book contains a complete list of references, notes for further details on claims and statements made throughout the text, and a comprehensive index, providing excellent source material for readers studying this topic in depth. This informative and well-written book will be a valued addition to many library collections, especially those supporting sociology or criminal justice programs. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All academic levels.

This edited volume addresses the complex problem of whether and how to regulate hate in a liberal democracy. Chapters focus on insights from classical political theorists and possible modern responses to hate to an examination of state-sponsored hate in Arizona that sought to purge the state of undocumented immigrants. Is hate a reasonable response to the moral failings of members of certain groups, or is it simply bigotry, which one should push back against with facts and reason? Should society criminalize hatred, or are people better served by laws that focus on specific wrongs, such as racism and xenophobia? Though it may be true that “the old ‘sticks and stones’ adage was never true,” to what degree should the state regulate the formation and dissemination of attitudes? What is the appropriate limit to the right of individuals to assert their views in public, “to the public discourse upon which democracy depends?” Instead of focusing on hate, perhaps citizens should shift their attention to the systemic underpinnings of that hate. Perhaps instead of punishing hate, society should shift to a system of restorative justice. This book is a comprehensive, thoughtful review of various perspectives, sure to generate heated classroom debate and interesting scholarly responses. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

3. The sociology of law and the global transformation of democracy. Thornhill, C. J. Cambridge, 2018. 587p bibl index, 9781107199903 $125.00, 9781316649060 $44.99, 9781108196444 $36.00
Thornhill (Univ. of Manchester, UK) has written several highly readable books on the sociology of law, especially on the sociology of constitutions. Here, he reexamines modern democracy’s historical transformation from its revolutionary beginnings in the late 18th century to its consolidation after 1945. Thornhill rejects the metaphysical concepts of classical democratic theory that centered on the political will of the citizen as the basis for democratic organization. Taking instead a legal-sociological perspective, he argues that the rise of global democracy after 1945 resulted from the emergence of international human rights law. The author examines the relationship between international human rights and the institutionalization of democracy in six countries: the US, the Federal Republic of Germany, the UK, Columbia, Russia, and Kenya. Suitable for courses in the sociology of law, constitutional law, international politics, and social theory. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.
4. **Ending overcriminalization and mass incarceration: hope from civil society.** Bradley, Anthony B.
Cambridge, 2018. 223p index, 9781108427548 $120.00, 9781108446297 $34.99, 9781108581769 $28.00

Bradley (The King’s College) applies Smith’s notion of personalism to the US’s overpopulated prison system. He makes a compelling argument that mass incarceration is a “crisis of human dignity” and concludes that criminal justice reform will be unsuccessful without aid from civil society, particularly the family. Much of the book is devoted to explaining the well-understood problems of mass incarceration, including the imbalances of prosecutorial and judicial discretion and the inadequacy of public defenders, but his discussion of personalism is not well integrated into these sections. Though his suggestion that help from civil society is necessary to repair the damage wrought by over incarceration is apt, his account overlooks the significance of structural forces in explaining mass incarceration. For example, he states that the school-to-prison pipeline must be dismantled “not from the policy down but from the person up.” Although strengthening the family will undoubtedly lessen the number of juvenile offenders, ending the practice of sending students to jail for school infractions will as well. Similarly, the fact that African Americans serve as police officers and judges or support tough-on-crime policies does not negate racism’s role in mass incarceration, as described by Michelle Alexander's The New Jim Crow (CH, Nov’10, 48-1766). Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

5. **Therapeutic justice: crime, treatment courts and mental illness.** Snedker, Karen A.
Palgrave Macmillan, 2018. 329p bibl index, 9783319789019 $119.00, 9783319789026 $119.00

Confronted with complex intertwining challenges, particularly high imprisonment and recidivism rates, insufficient health care for the incarcerated population, and limited reforms to significantly improve lives, criminal justice reformers have designed, implemented, and advocated mental health courts during the last decades as vital “problem-solving” mechanisms for contemporary social problems. However, as empirical studies have shown, economic, political, and ideological forces, along with shifting demographics, trends, and emerging issues, have impaired the design and implementation of a sound and holistic model. In an effort to situate mental health court reforms within a broader context, Snedker (Seattle Pacific Univ.) provides quantitative and qualitative analyses, triangulating not only research methodologies but also psychological, sociological, and legal analyses and perspectives. Instead of punitive social control, the author vividly delineates a model of care—progressive reforms that will further transform mental health into an effective therapeutic mental health and criminal justice model. The book is beneficial in the area of contemporary mental health courts, therapeutic jurisprudence, and criminal justice reform. Therapeutic Justice is a wonderful read for all people vested in better understanding the intersection of mental health and the criminal justice system. Summing Up: Recommended. Graduate students through faculty.

**December 2018 Reviews**

1. **Communities and crime: an enduring American challenge.** by Pamela Wilcox, Francis T. Cullen, and Ben Feldmeyer.
Temple, 2017. 261p bibl index, 9781592139736 $99.50, 9781592139743 $29.95, 9781592139750 $29.95

Wilcox, Cullen, and Feldmeyer (all, criminal justice, Univ. of Cincinnati) provide an intellectual history of communities and crime in the US. They look at seven perceptions of the inner-city community—community as socially disorganized, as system, as truly disadvantaged, as criminal culture, as broken window, as criminal opportunity, and as collective efficacy—devoting a chapter to each. The authors
emphasize the macro context, i.e., the idea that though particular images of community convey static differences, inner-city criminalistic communities are not islands but have distinct ongoing linkages with surrounding communities and neighborhoods and with the larger region of the city. In the last chapter, the authors discuss various misunderstandings about communities and crime: the failure to take into account, as David Weisburd wrote in "The Law of Crime Concentration and the Criminology of Place" (published in Criminology, 2015), that “about 50 percent of crime is found at just 5 to 6 percent of street segments”; the assumption that crime rates in inner-city neighborhoods will always be high; and the erroneous assumption that the major cause of inner-city crime in black communities is a function of the fact that the population is black. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals.


After spending months, years, or decades incarcerated, well over a half-million persons return to their communities each year. What transpires is significant because it reflects the utility of imprisonment: how ex-offenders thrive or fail on reentry. Eight previous vetted studies examined this population with different sample sizes, follow-up times, and numbers of participants retained at the end of the research period. This ninth undertaking, the Boston Reentry Study (BRS), draws from the strengths of earlier research and provides the best analysis to date of the reentry experience. Western, a Harvard sociologist, is an eminent researcher on mass incarceration. Furthermore, he writes with grace and simplicity, making his narrative understandable and persuasive to any college-educated reader interested in criminal justice. The BRS begins with 122 participants who were first interviewed in prison a month prior to their release and follows 91 percent for at least one year. This hugely important study reflects how the poverty-addiction-family dysfunction nexus often leads to incarceration, making successful reentry a challenge. Prison administrators and legislators should be asking themselves why their penal institutions can't be smarter. Western's account ends with research-based recommendations for public policies. Summing Up: Essential for criminal justice collections. Most levels/libraries.


Robinson (Penn) and attorney Tyler Scot Williams address theoretical and doctrinal notions of criminal law. The first six parts, which include 21 chapters, cover punishment, homicide, liability doctrines, excuses defenses, justification defenses, and non-exculpatory defenses. The authors attempt to provide a detailed context for legal issues connected to issues like the felony-murder rule by providing clear and contemporary examples. Often legal scholarship fails to connect some of the best hypotheticals to present theories. Robinson and Williams are clear and concise. The book's second half considers property offenses, decency offenses, offenses against the community, and procedural issues. The balance of the law professor and practicing attorney is rare in legal scholarship. For legal scholars who are interested in the general topic of criminal law, this book provides some detailed and dense information that may help serve as an introduction. What Robinson and Williams do especially well is provide a balance between the theoretical foundation necessary to best understand criminal law and numerous examples of how each issue is worthy of further study. For those interested in understanding criminal law and beyond, this book is invaluable. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

Anderson (Mississippi College) tackles the financial crime of insider trading that is questionably malum prohibitum through the lens of philosopher and law scholar. As this reviewer has found in her own research on the subject, Anderson notes that the biggest problem with insider trading (illegal, not allowed, and disclosed trading by employees in publicly traded companies) is that the laws themselves, as is common in much of white collar crime regulation, are ambiguous and not uniformly enforced. Anderson offers a concise history of legislation, including brief cross-national comparisons, with a decidedly non-Eurocentric view to include India, Japan, Russia, and China, along with the expected European countries. Though thorough overall, there is little attention to sociological motivations, including attention to the culture of financial institutions, focusing more on individual rather than collective behavior, where insider trading may be “normative,” even with what regulation does exist. Overall, a smart, fairly well-researched book that should be included in any literature review on the subject of financial crime or malfeasance, particularly as it is the first one to come along in some time devoted to scholarship rather than sensationalism. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Graduate students through professionals.


This volume combines psychological, economic, and environmental approaches to offer a unique perspective on environmental policy. Addressing the widespread polarization over global climate change, DeSombre (Wellesley College) argues that nobody intends bad environmental effects. They occur when actions produce “externalities,” or unintended consequences. Focus on confronting or educating individuals about environmental concerns, DeSombre contends, delivers poor or counterproductive results. These and other themes are explored in a tightly organized book featuring factors such as social structures, extrinsic versus intrinsic factors, positive incentivization (e.g., subsidy), negative incentivization (e.g., regulation), attitudes, and scientific knowledge. Despite DeSombre's stance on the limited benefits of environmental education as a tool for change, she does not advocate for avoiding new scientific knowledge; she believes problems arise when the focus is on changing people's minds on an individual basis. Documented with 30 pages of notes and 26 pages of references, the book is an excellent resource for readers concerned about environmental policy. The only major omission noted is that member nations of the European Union avoided US-style polarization by recognizing the same key practical issues covered in the book when they adopted more cooperative environmental policies in the 1990s. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals; general readers.


Numerous negatives have marred US economic advancement. From at least the onset of industrialization, that list has included the exploitation of child workers. Though reforms have eliminated its worst manifestations, juvenile employment remains a contentious issue. Fliter (political science, Kansas State Univ.) provides a comprehensive explication of the efforts to prohibit—or at least regulate—child labor from the mid-1800s to the present. Discussions of legal aspects, especially those pertaining to legal theory and constitutionality, are especially strong. Moving chronologically, chapters place statutory and judicial developments in historical context, but well detailed accounts of what
happened too often lack full explanations of why they did. For example, why did judicial philosophy change in the early 1940s, making the courts more receptive to the regulation of child labor than the courts of the 1910s had been? Why do some present-day political factions support the lessening of legal protections governing minor employees? More of this type of analysis would have been useful. Even so, this book is a valuable resource for academics and professionals dealing with juvenile-related public policy. Summing Up: Recommended. Most academic levels.

7. Foreigners on America’s death rows: the legal combat over access to a consul. Quigley, John B. Cambridge, 2018. 282p bibl index, 9781108428231 $110.00, 9781108656597 $88.00
Highlighting cases of foreigners facing capital punishment, this disturbing book chronicles US noncompliance with Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, which provides for the right of consular access to a country’s nationals detained or arrested abroad. Although objectively written, taken in its entirety, it constitutes no less than an indictment of US failure to observe this fundamental provision of customary international and treaty law by taking the position—contrary to opinio juris and in defiance of rulings by international courts—that when a foreign national is not advised about the right to consular access, the rights of the sending state, not that of the individual, are violated, thus relegating the matter to the diplomatic level. US courts, Quigley (Ohio State) argues, have abdicated their role upholding America’s obligations under the Convention, which, paradoxically, the US invokes on behalf of its own citizens. This is a meticulously researched and scholarly work by an expert on consular law on what has become a serious bone of contention between the US and foreign governments. Of obvious appeal to lawyers, students of international relations will also find this book of interest. Summing Up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

8. Dilemma of duties: the conflicted role of juvenile defenders. Corbin, Anne M. Southern Illinois, 2018. 224p bibl index, 9780809336647 $35.00, 9780809336654 $35.00
Corbin has written a comprehensive treatise on the extensive value of juvenile defenders in the criminal justice system. The book specifically looks at the role of conflict that defenders experience when representing a juvenile in a criminal case. The book speaks to the limited resources available to juvenile defenders and how this limitation impacts their criminal cases. One of the things Corbin discusses is how difficult it is for defenders to manage a case while dealing with their clients’ mistrust of adults. This is a unique study that speaks to the world of juvenile defenders and the impact they have on the lives of their juvenile clients. It provides valuable insight into the work juvenile defenders do on behalf of the vulnerable clients. This book has a wealth of knowledge about the juvenile justice system from a defenders’ perspective. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Graduate students through professionals.

This book is an encyclopedic, truly comprehensive treatment of a historic issue within the general topic of the use of violent force in international law. Twenty essays by 29 contributors, 18 of whom are academic professors in international law, are organized into four parts. The other contributors are involved in some way with erudite treatments of the subject matter. Leila Sadat (Washington Univ.) collected the essays and serves as the editor. In addition to the substantive treatment of the international legal aspects of using force to achieve a state’s objectives, the collection of supporting cases and other legal materials is a researcher’s delight. Part 1 addresses some essential elements, such as a definition of aggression, the initiation of legal concerns with WW II tribunals, and how a "just war"
was understood in ancient times. Part 2 handles the question of how law can approach the use of force by limiting its manifestation. Part 3 treats international humanitarian law as it relates to aggressive state behavior, and the last part addresses, in part, the relationship of jus in bello to jus ad bellum and the goal of achieving peace through law. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Graduate students through professionals.

10. Terrorist criminal enterprises: financing terrorism through organized crime. ed. by Kimberley L. Thachuk and Rollie Lal. Praeger, 2018. 212p index, 9781440860676 $75.00, 9781440860683 $75.00, 9781440860693 $75.00

Editors Thachuk and Lal (George Washington) begin with the provocative (yet appropriately qualified) hypothesis that rejects the common notion of a “nexus” between modern terrorist groups and organized crime. They posit an intriguing and compelling idea of a “gangsterization of terrorism,” wherein groups engage in criminal behavior directly to fund their operations—in what one author cleverly labels a marriage of Mohammed and Machiavelli. This valuable addition to the field clearly explains the degree to which terrorist groups engage in entrepreneurial, mafia-like behavior. Although most of the case studies demonstrate that profit seeking via criminal activity remains secondary to ideology (i.e., opportunism has not surpassed militancy), each chapter carefully analyzes the illicit modalities—including extortion, theft, money laundering, and drug trafficking—that are not incidental to financing larger operational goals. Ultimately, a single policy recommendation is common to all: states should acknowledge that counter-terrorism measures can be greatly complemented by an increased focus on more traditional law enforcement mechanisms, thereby providing new opportunities to fill intelligence gaps and for strategic disruption. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

11. Committed: the battle over involuntary psychiatric care. by Dinah Miller and Annette Hanson. Johns Hopkins, 2018, 298p bibl index, 9781421420783 $22.95, 9781421425412 $22.95, 9781421420790 $22.95

This is a thorough, objective, balanced presentation of the complex controversies surrounding involuntary psychiatric care in the US. For those with a personal or professional stake in providing care to those with chronic mental illness or those in acute mental health crisis, this book will be an essential resource. Psychiatrists Miller and Hanson (both, Johns Hopkins) deliberately include the voices of people on both sides of the issue of forced treatment to provide readers with a panoramic view of the parallel dangers and benefits of involuntary care. The voices represented within the text include those of advocates and opponents as well as patients and professionals in the field. In the context of civil rights, readers benefit from an in-depth exploration of the many issues related to seclusion, restraint, involuntary medication, and involuntary electroconvulsive therapy. This text is surprisingly readable, and the authors provide a context for thoughtful discussion that is clearly well-researched and analytical yet powerfully compassionate, acknowledging that often emotions lie at the heart of the involuntary treatment and commitment process. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals.


Flaws in institutional performance are seen by Cameron (Univ. of British Columbia) as arising from the lack of practical wisdom and moral judgment of practitioners. The book draws from the tradition of virtue ethics starting with Aristotle, i.e., virtue meaning excellence in the classical Greek sense.
Institutions thus depend on wise and moral practitioners to perform well. To this end, Cameron argues for more deliberation and compromise in democracy; moderate partisanship, not hyper-partisanship; weaker executives and stronger legislatures (separation of powers more generally); and more public goods. He is against neoliberalism and competitive utility maximization, elections being purely about winning, and positivism in social science. Overall, though, Cameron does not focus on desired precise institutional setups but on the goals of institutions, particularly on the required character and behavior of the individuals within them. The book assesses several situations of applying practical wisdom to specific political challenges. It draws on an impressive range of readings and has a very thorough bibliography and a helpful glossary. This is mainly a work of political theory, but it provides quite useful context for American politics and comparative politics. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

13. The captive's quest for freedom: fugitive slaves, the 1850 Fugitive Slave Law, and the politics of slavery. Blackett, R. J. M. Cambridge, 2018. 511p bibl index, 9781108418713 $120.00, 9781108407779 $32.99, 9781108314107 $26.00

Blackett (history, Vanderbilt Univ.) has written what is now the essential work on the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 and the myriad ways this law reshaped both US politics and the lives of enslaved black Americans. Blackett’s narrative begins with the notorious 1850 law, situating it within the larger debates over slavery and its relationship to federal power that coursed through antebellum politics. Most important, the enslaved themselves play a crucial role. Blackett reveals just how significant the sum total of individual decisions to attempt escape was: no fugitive slaves, no fugitive slave crisis. The book moves easily between high politics and local, even individual, examples of the debates over fugitives and the underground networks that aided and abetted them. Blackett’s research is exhaustive, and the granular detail for each region examined in part 2 reveals a wealth of information about how the Underground Railroad functioned locally and the efforts of slaveholders and their allies to stem what they saw as an increasingly urgent crisis. This book is a major contribution to the literature on enslaved peoples and the coming of the Civil War. Summing Up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduates and above.


On October 7, 1986, Antonin Scalia took his seat as an associate justice on the US Supreme Court. Over the next 30 years, he would have a significant impact. When he joined his brethren he brought with him a commitment to constitutional originalism, which supports the interpreting of the Constitution as written by the framers, and statutory textualism, which defends the interpreting of statutes as authored. Scalia believed that by adopting his system, the court would hand down politically neutral decisions. Several legal scholars, many of whom believe that the Constitution is a living document, have been critical of Scalia’s stand. Among them is legal scholar Richard Hasen (UC Irvine). In his book, he provides a review of the Scalia years and his application of originalism/textualism. The work’s title sums up Hansen’s point of view. He notes that at times the justice would skip over the rules he set forth. This well-written work of scholarship is readable at all levels. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.
November 2018 Reviews


Minian (history and comparative studies in race and ethnicity, Stanford) contextualizes the post-Bracero (manual worker) Program period of Mexican migration and immigration between 1965 and 1986. She focuses on migration patterns to and from Mexico's Michoacán and Zacatecas regions and Los Angeles. Over 250 oral histories bring a new historical perspective to the Mexican immigration and migration process. Individual chapters contextualize the historical construction of modern Mexican migration and immigration, cross-cultural tensions among Mexican Americans, the sexuality and gender identity of male migrants, and the rise of contemporary anti-immigrant policies in the US. Minian challenges similar published scholarship that centers on the Mexican migration and immigration experience in the US: she is influenced instead by a body of recent Latinx migrant/immigrant scholarship that introduces transnational and cross-cultural perspectives to the existing literature on this critical subject matter. Her research yields insights into the social and ideological impacts that past Mexican migrants and immigrants have had on the current struggle for immigrants' rights in the US. This is also the first scholarship that investigates the sexuality and gender identity of Mexican migrant and immigrant males on both sides of the US border. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All readership levels/libraries.


Policing is a well-studied area of interest for social scientists. However, there remain important aspects of the occupational experiences of police officers that deserve investigation. The experiences of those policing, for example, are studied relatively rarely, as most criminological research focuses on officers' experiences with the public. Retired police officer Panter (Liverpool John Moores Univ., UK) breaks from that trend and presents the first investigation into the experiences of transgender police. Panter examines the attitudes of cisgender police officers towards transgender officers, the experiences of police officers who identify as transgender, and the broader consequences of these attitudes and experiences. This first-of-its-kind research combines empirical, qualitative evidence with incisive theory and policy implications; the author presents valuable directions for future research. Each chapter contains a complete list of references and notes for further details on claims and statements made throughout the text. The book also contains a comprehensive index that provides excellent source material for research on policing and gender. This illuminating text will be an appreciated addition to any library collection, especially those supporting sociology, psychology, gender studies, or criminology and criminal justice programs. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals.


People of color in Chicago's deeply segregated Austin neighborhood are subject to horrific rates of crime, violence, and trauma. They are also subject to rampant police abuse and one of the highest incarceration rates in the world. Through extensive research and personal stories, the authors show how these two issues become entwined in a neo-liberal city that focuses all of its positive attention on building a world-class downtown and leaves impoverished neighborhoods, like Austin, decimated. For
40 years, the municipal government has tried to maintain peace and safety by investing in police power while simultaneously disinvesting from jobs programs, mental and physical health clinics, and schools. This "war on neighborhoods" leaves impoverished communities vulnerable to crime—which, in turn, creates the erroneous impression that only criminals live there and that investing in community development is pointless. Building on the work of Michelle Alexander, the authors call for a move toward interconnectedness and community resources and away from individual blame, discrimination by police and prosecutors, and mass incarceration. The consequences of living in a police state extend far beyond Austin, and this book needs to be widely read. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All readers.

4. The history of policing America : from militias and military to the law enforcement of today. French, Laurence. Rowman & Littlefield, 2018. 263p index, 9781538102039 $38.00, 9781538102046 $36.00

French (emer., psychology, Western New Mexico Univ.) does not offer just another historical survey of policing. He has written a loosely chronological account of the injustices perpetrated by the justice system against Native Americans, African Americans, and Mexican Americans (among others) from the Colonial period to the present. He traces the roots of this discriminatory enforcement of the law to early colonists' Puritan culture, which fostered the embrace of Manifest Destiny and white (Anglo-Saxon Protestant) supremacy. Under the direction of these WASP elites, the police, courts, armed forces, and other legal (and extralegal) entities have regularly used violence to control other classes and races. While French’s catalog of abuses serves to remind readers of the social and political context in which policing must be studied, his analytical framework is too broad and his historical narrative too superficial to fully sustain all of his points. Moreover, his assertion that academia has “validat[ed] ‘institutional racism’” seems motivated in part by grievances against certain prominent scholars. Nevertheless, his recommendations that reforms be based on a more sophisticated understanding of bias, and that psychological assessments of personnel be used to identify prejudice, appear sound. Summing Up: Recommended. With the caveats above. Undergraduates and general readers.


Cramer (College of Western Idaho) challenges recent work by historians, such as Pamela Haag (The Gunning of America, CH, Oct’16, 54-0847), who argue that guns and gun culture were not a major part of American society until after the Civil War. To prove them wrong, he pieces together original source material on laws that mandate gun ownership and regulate hunting as well as data on the number of gunsmiths and gun manufacturers in the US during the Colonial period. Cramer continues his documentary tour into the early Republic (1783–1846), where he finds extensive written evidence of plentiful guns and a robust gun culture in travelogues, advertising, and newspaper reports. He also refutes the notion that gun businesses created American gun culture through marketing efforts when government contracting slowed down. Though the book thins out as Cramer moves on to discuss gun culture in the postbellum and modern periods (1865–1930 and 1930–present), the work on early American history makes this an important reference text on guns in American society. As it is organized around answering specific questions rather than telling a story about guns, it lacks a coherent historical narrative and is occasionally dry. Overall, this is an important reference volume for libraries. Summing Up: Recommended. Advanced undergraduates through faculty and professionals.

The laws of war (international humanitarian law, or IHL) have proliferated and shifted focus from the rights of belligerents to protections for civilians, and declarations of war and peace treaties have gone out of style. Meanwhile, civil wars frequently end with peace agreements, and non-state, secessionist rebel groups sometimes declare independence and adhere to the laws of war. These patterns have not gone unnoticed but, until now, have not been adequately explained and certainly not embodied in an overall theoretical and empirical framework. In her cleverly titled Wars of Law, Fazal (Minnesota) offers an original, coherent, largely satisfactory explanation for these developments. She elaborates her arguments about differential compliance with the laws of war and associated practices in both interstate and civil conflicts, using content analysis, original data sets, and selected case studies. Equally important, she brings this analysis to bear on contemporary IHL policy issues and vexing questions, such as those about autonomous weapons, cyberwar, and rebel behavior in civil conflicts. Highly recommended for university libraries and collections specializing in international law and politics, security, peace and conflict studies, and defense policy. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.


Sociologist Marcelo Bergman, professor and founding director of the Center for Latin American Studies on Insecurity and Violence at the National University of Tres de Febrero in Argentina, tackles a monumental assignment in this rather ambitious project. Making critical contributions to sociology and criminology, among other fields, the author convincingly argues that criminality in Latin America continues to rise as it has become a lucrative endeavor for many Latin Americans, including entrepreneurs and public officials. Bergman's data collection includes inmate surveys, victim surveys, and penal judicial files. Bergman and his research team conducted face-to-face interviews but only in Mexico, Peru, El Salvador, Brazil, Chile, and Argentina. Hence, the greatest shortcoming of this book is that it covers a large region as opposed to any one individual country and, consequently, more attention is given to the larger South American countries and Mexico. A second area that this monograph overlooks is the role of the US in contributing to Latin America's status as the most crime-ridden region in the world. Nonetheless, this work makes several interventions and provides useful data, such as a toolkit of concepts. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals.


Human trafficking expert Kara delivers a truthful, powerful look into slavery. In this case study approach, he chronicles the stories of those who endured such experiences. Each chapter reveals different forms of slavery today, including sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and debt bondage. Kara shares insight into possible ways of eradicating slavery and offers nothing short of true empirical research while showing signs of empathy for the survivors and exposing evil truths about such situations. The book is decent in length and relatively easy to manage, and Kara goes beyond the stories of the victims to demonstrate hope for the future in his final thoughts. Offering hard data on slavery, the author includes various metrics in the appendix on profits, people, regions, and types of bondage. This heart-wrenching tale
exhibits the moral, political, and technological reality of slavery today. Summing Up: Highly recommended. General readers; upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

October 2018 Reviews

1. **Miller's children: why giving teenage killers a second chance matters for all of us. Garbarino, James.** California, 2018. 199p bibl index, 9780520295674 $85.00, 9780520295681 $24.95, 9780520968363

Garbarino (Center for the Human Rights of Children, Loyola Univ. of Chicago) has written a compelling and compassionate text that explores the impact of the 2012 US Supreme Court’s decision in Miller v. Alabama. The court's ruling in this case bans life-without-parole sentences for juveniles convicted of murder. Garbarino writes that this ruling's retroactive applicability has profoundly impacted many young offenders who once thought they would spend their entire lives in prison and who now stand a chance of rejoicing the outside world. Garbarino’s fieldwork as an expert psychology witness forms the backbone of this book; it is well researched and filled with stories of youth who faced life without parole. He speaks of who the youth are—primarily Black and Latino—and he speaks about the communities they come from. Weaving individual stories together with human development research, he builds a compelling argument that rehabilitation can give these youths a second chance in society. He emphasizes the role of education, reflection, mentoring, and spiritual development in rehabilitation. An eloquent reflection on the value of hope in the face of despair. Summing Up: Recommended.

2. **Self-ownership, property rights and the human body: a legal and philosophical analysis, Cambridge bioethics and law, 43. Quigley, Muireann.** Cambridge, 2018. 339p bibl index, 9781107036864 $125.00, 9781108651684 $100.00

The book is a thorough and engaging review of philosophical theories and laws regarding the kind of control and authority human beings have over their bodies and biological materials taken from, or derived from, their bodies. Advances in medicine and biomedical research over the past two centuries have repeatedly demonstrated state laws to be inadequate and moral theories incomplete. Quigley’s analysis of the history of moral and legal rights regarding one’s body is thorough and accessible. Quigley (Univ. of Birmingham, UK) takes advantage of a wide variety of historical problem cases to illustrate philosophical and legal challenges to otherwise commonsense theories of self-ownership and discusses how laws and moral theories have changed to better reflect intuitions about these tough cases. Quigley ultimately argues that human beings possess robust property rights in their own bodies and in any separated parts of their bodies. Well-researched and full of compelling arguments and thought experiments, this book is an important resource and makes a substantive contribution to the medical ethics literature. Summing Up: Essential. Upper division undergraduates through faculty.


Focusing on the establishment of Chicago's juvenile justice system, Agyepong (history, DePaul Univ.) shows how the progressive notion of rehabilitative justice rooted in childhood innocence and malleability became racialized over the first half of the 20th century. She discusses black children's experiences in this juvenile system, and provides an account of the Chicago black community’s efforts to apply this rehabilitative ideal to black youth during the Great Migration. Few institutions were willing to serve black children—in light of "scientific" arguments identifying black children as inferior and
unmalleable—so "dependent" black children were labeled delinquent and forced into overcrowded institutions. Agyepong focuses on two gender-segregated sites to demonstrate the system's racialized and sexualized criminalization of black children. Black children were identified as hypersexual, sexually and physically aggressive, and, increasingly, unsavable. With 1935 legislation removing felons older than ten from juvenile care into the criminal system, and the establishment of a prison for boys in 1941—both moves motivated by racially coded murders—the juvenile system turned toward recrimination rather than rehabilitation, a turn facilitated by the willingness to identify some children as inherently un reformable. Summing Up: Recommended. Lower-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals.

Hart, a public historian whose past writings focus on the Zunis, has written an excellent memoir of his involvement as an expert witness for American Indian nations in the West over the past four decades. His book also carefully explains the roles and the pitfalls of serving in this capacity. Hart's consulting firm has been involved in Indian cases focusing on boundary disputes, environmental damage, federal recognition, fishing and hunting rights, land claims, and water rights. His own historical research has included validating the oral history of the Hualapai and their claim to the waters of the Colorado River; doing extensive reports and testifying in federal courts against the State of Idaho, which had insisted that the Coeur d'Alene did not own lake beds and riverbeds affected by mining pollution; providing documents for the Amah Mutsun of California in its unending, three-decade struggle to seek federal acknowledgement in the petition processes established in the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and writing ethnohistorical reports to help the Wenatchis, one of the Confederated Colville Tribes, secure their fishing rights. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

5. The Bill of Rights, 2nd ed. ed. by Thomas T. Lewis. Salem Press, 2017. 2v bibl index, 9781682175934 $175.00, 9781682175941 $175.00
Although the Bill of Rights establishes liberties and privileges for citizens, its inability to address evolving social concerns, such as the rights of transgender persons and hate crimes, highlight its deficiencies. Lewis (St. Cloud State Univ.) has updated content in this two-volume set to address several of these issues. He reorganized sections into four broad categories that better scaffold content from one section to the next. These include "Overview of the Ten Amendments," "Historical Topics and Legal Concepts," "Contemporary Issues Relating to the Bill of Rights," and "Court Cases." This structure helps guide readers through the complexity of the Bill of Rights and its bearing on present-day issues. Volume 1 contains 136 entries spread over the first three sections, and the entries in volume 2 examine 391 court cases in which the Bill of Rights was defined or extended. The seven appendixes are standard fare for a reference title; they contain reprints of select primary source documents, such as the Declaration of Independence, and other related material, including information about Supreme Court justices and a timeline of events. Some entries are briefer than others, but the authors provide additional readings readers can use for in-depth study. Summing Up: Recommended. Lower-division undergraduates through faculty.

Restrictions on public speech have been the occasion for controversy from the inception of our country: seditious libel, obscenity, fighting words, incitement, among others. More recently, speech codes limiting or banning “hate speech” that some claim threaten the dignity of groups or individuals and/or have an exclusionary impact have come front and center. Strossen, former president of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and professor of law at New York Law School, has written a critique of these attempts. The challenge has occasioned a spate of books defending or attacking these restrictions. Strossen’s work provides the libertarian view of speech in a free society. She lays out in clear and accurate fashion the tests the court has developed under the First Amendment: which restrictions are permitted and which ones are not. In doing so, she presents the case against speech codes and restrictions on hate speech, providing numerous examples of these codes in operation—nationally and internationally—and pointing out their deleterious impact—intended and unintended—on free speech. A thoughtful defense of restricting or banning hate speech is Jeremy Waldron’s The Harm in Hate Speech (CH, Dec’12, 50-2361). Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

7. Stories from trailblazing women lawyers: lives in the law. Norgren, Jill. New York University, 2018. 287p bibl index, 9781479865963 $30.00, 9781479803378

In 2005, the American Bar Association’s Commission on Women in the Profession undertook an oral history project to interview 100 outstanding senior women lawyers. Participants were asked to recount personal and professional lives to younger women lawyers conducting the interviews. The interviews were recorded and later transcribed. Norgren (John Jay College) was given the opportunity to turn the interviews into a history of women in the legal profession. These individual histories are woven together in coherent text to highlight the many similarities and reveal the emerging pattern. Norgren set the histories in chronological order but not by specific dates. She has childhood experiences in one chapter, law school experiences in another. The women’s careers are very different. This book is very well written and an enjoyable reading experience. It describes the gender discrimination these trailblazers faced to enter a male dominated profession, and it points to the places where gender discrimination in the legal profession still exists. Summing Up: Recommended. Graduate students through faculty.


The opening sentence says it all: “Government officials jail people they perceive as threats.” But the laws that challenge such jailing have a definite history that has often been circumscribed by the struggle over such governmental power. Freedman (Hofstra) suggests a reading of this history and applies it, for example, to the imprisonment of Guantanamo inmates, thus rendering his erudite and impassioned account of that history of far greater importance than its technical analysis might suggest. Himself a litigator as well as a scholar in the field, Freedman brings practical experience and archival research to the study, including considerations of jury involvement and judicial independence. With examples ranging from our own colonial past to the implications for contemporary immigration policy, this is actually a book for the general reader interested in the most fundamental aspects of constructing a nation of laws and a world order that places appropriate limits on the powers of each branch of government. The writing is occasionally didactic, and some basic concepts (like private prosecutions) are inadequately introduced. Nevertheless, the book is highly recommended for general and specialized
libraries and for readers at various levels. Summing Up: Highly recommended. General readers. Upper-
division undergraduates through faculty.

9780190851767 $27.95, 9780190851774
Hoffer (Univ. of Georgia) investigates a new and fresh aspect of the American Civil War, focusing on sets
of legal questions that occurred during the conflict. This concise work includes a prologue, six chapters,
an epilogue, and a conclusion plus an extensive annotated bibliography and an index. Hoffer begins with
the discussion of law and politics found in the first Lincoln-Douglas debate in Ottawa, Illinois, in August
1858. Subsequent chapters discuss the issues of the legality of secession, a comparison of the
presidential cabinets of Lincoln and Davis and the two congresses, the Merryman case and suspension of
the writ of habeas corpus, the legality of the Emancipation Proclamation, the abolition of slavery, and
lawyers’ approaches to Reconstruction. Chapters are thoroughly documented by primary sources
ranging from correspondence and diaries to legal documents. The author takes a unique approach to
discuss political events heavily influenced by lawyers in the Lincoln and Davis administrations. This book
will interest those who want to research major legal issues of the Civil War and learn more about the
roles lawyers played behind the scenes. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-
division undergraduates through faculty.

bibl index, 9783319755762 $129.00, 9783319755779 $99.00
Ferkaluk (Cedarville Univ.) offers an important new contribution to the ever-growing field of Tocqueville
studies. Most of the scholarly treatment of Tocqueville centers on his seminal work, Democracy in
America, and its study of the American regime and political culture. This is for good reason. Democracy
may well be the best book ever written about democracy and the best book ever written about the US.
It is only natural, therefore, that the text should command the bulk of scholarly attention. Ferkaluk,
however, reminds us that Tocqueville and his friend Beaumont did not originally come to the US to
study democracy. They came to study the American prison system and offer a comparative analysis to
the prison system in France. That effort produced On the Penitentiary System, a work that Ferkaluk
rightly emphasizes has been badly neglected. To that end, Ferkaluk asks what the meaning of On the
Penitentiary System is and what its purpose is. She discovers that Tocqueville’s political theory shines
through the text in unexpected ways and that the book offers important lessons to contemporary liberal
democracy. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-
division undergraduates through faculty.

September 2018 Reviews

1. Trapped in a vice: the consequences of confinement for young people. Cox, Alexandra L. Rutgers,
2018. 218p index, 9780813570471 $99.95, 9780813570464 $28.95, 9780813570488 $28.95
Trapped in a Vice is an eye-opener. Cox (sociology, Univ. of Essex, UK) details what others have been
writing about for the last few years, the process by which juveniles in the US can be given life sentences
without the possibility of parole. No other country engages in such absurd and inhumane treatment of
its children. Across five chapters the author reveals the depth of damage that a criminal justice system
can deliver. The US Supreme Court ruled in 2012 (Miller v. Alabama) that life without the possibility of
parole is cruel and unusual punishment when the subject is a juvenile, even if the crime is murder. Cox is
ahead of the game with this carefully researched book. For this reviewer one chapter stands out:
"Ungovernability and Worth." In it Cox looks carefully at a 16-year-old teen ("Michael") who is constantly stopped by the police, for no reason other than the color of his skin, his gender, and the color of his clothes. For this, and bad conduct reports in school, Michael was deemed—by his teachers and even his parents—ungovernable and worthless. Released in the "Critical Issues in Crime and Society" series, this is a telling book. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All readers.

2. Building the prison state: race and the politics of mass incarceration. Schoenfeld, Heather. Chicago, 2018. 370p bibl index, 9780226520964 $105.00, 9780226521015 $35.00, 9780226521152 $35.00
In her impressive tome, sociologist Schoenfeld (Northwestern) traces the political and social mechanisms that fueled the growth of the prison industrial complex with its evident ties to race within the state of Florida. While doing so, she incorporates several theories to unravel this complex history as one that although unnecessary was an eventual outcome of policy decisions. There is quite a bit of information to absorb in this text. Chapter 1 introduces many ideas but is so weighted with theory that some explanations of terms and their contexts are better shared in later chapters. The text provides very concrete road maps throughout; therefore, it may be prudent to read as written and then reread chapter 1 later for better clarity. That said, this work ties theory, federal, state, and local history together so well that those who finish this work could concretely say they could envision the evolution of prisons and their supporting systems and how race factors into this history. Additionally, readers can also see the new evolution this system may experience. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above.

3. Contemporary issues in victimology: identifying patterns and trends, ed. by Carly M. Hilinski-Rosick and Daniel R. Lee. Lexington Books, 2018. 272p bibl index, 9781498566377 $100.00, 9781498566384 $95.00
Each of the 11 essays in this book of readings provides a review and update of a specific area of victimology. The content is arranged in two broad areas: one focuses on types of victims (elders, same sex, children), the other on types of contexts in which victimization occurs (e.g., college campuses). The chapters include some areas that are not commonly investigated, such as victimization in corrections, and relatively new areas, such as cybercrime. On the whole, the chapters are independent, well written, and well referenced. The authors have experience with or published in the areas they review. There are no illustrations, charts, or tables. The index is limited. The reading level is within the reach of undergraduate students. For libraries serving departments of criminal justice, criminology, social work, or sociology that seek to maintain expanded resources. Summing Up: Recommended. All academic levels/libraries.

Wooldredge and Smith lead a team of over 50 contributors who wrote 30 essays divided into six broad topics. Each focuses on trends since the 1970s. A few read more like annotated literature reviews than overviews. The documentation is exceptional, and includes lengthy references and many peer-reviewed articles. The writing style is much more scholarly and thorough than similar titles such as Jeffrey Ferro’s Prisons (CH, May’06, 43-5031). The editors introduce their work as a resource for graduate students and professionals. Undergraduates can certainly benefit from the essays if they are able to digest the academic prose. Some essays are broken down into more manageable segments. The essays adequately cover material in about 20 pages. The contributors are careful not to push political or social justice
agendas. Controversial topics such as private prisons and mass incarceration are covered in the same unbiased style as drugs and prisons. There is some repetition and duplication between the essays. The imprisonment boom of the late 20th century, privatization, and supermax prisons receive a lot of attention throughout. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

5. Stick together and come back home: racial sorting and the spillover of carceral identity. Lopez-Aguado, Patrick. California, 2018. 226p bibl index, 9780520288584 $85.00, 9780520288591 $29.95, 9780520963450
Sociologist Lopez-Aguado (Santa Clara Univ.) provides an in-depth, detailed example of the ways in which the criminal justice system replicates the racist inclinations of the larger society. The author tracks 70 subjects as they wind their way through the criminal justice system, which serves as a machine of racism that further inculcates the whims of the dominant culture. The book serves as an excellent application of labeling theory, as it exposes the system’s efforts to sort and judge people based on their racial characteristics, not necessarily on the threat they pose to society. For example, prisoners are grouped along racial lines, ostensibly to quell racial tensions within the prisons. The practice only enhances the “us versus them” mentality and the defensiveness that is inherent in the newly incarcerated. The resulting paradigm is then exported back into the community when the prisoner is released. In minority “high incarceration” neighborhoods, this reinforced paradigm only drives the wedge between racial groups deeper, and facilitates the incarceration loop ad infinitum. In this way, the system at once reflects and reproduces the racist views of the society it serves, ensuring that the racial divide is exacerbated. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above.

Hume presents a social-scientific take on the politics of judging. This brief volume focuses on empirical versus normative questions that are key to fostering an analytical approach to what we know about courts and judging. This focus is not maintained consistently in the discussion questions posed at the end of the chapters, which are often more normative in nature. The supplementary primary source excerpts are the standard fare for judicial process textbooks; they are not particularly creative, but they provide solid applications of the concepts introduced in the text. The structure of the book is organized by social science theories, which provides an interesting frame for presenting concepts organically, on an as-needed basis. This makes the flow of the book superior to that of many similar texts. Although the book covers many of the basics, it occasionally assumes some prior knowledge. It draws more heavily from the perspective of political science than many similar texts, which makes it an important supplement to a more traditional text in courses on judging, judicial process, or law and society. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

7. Blockchain and the law: the rule of code, by Primavera De Filippi and Aaron Wright. Harvard, 2018. 300p index, 9780674976429 $35.00, 9780674985933
The book is a wonderfully thorough analysis of one of the most important technologies of this century. It is a comprehensive book that should be recommended reading for anyone interested in cryptography-based technologies. This technology with embedded economic incentives is likely to proliferate into many areas of the economy. De Filippi (Harvard) and Wright (Yeshiva) discuss difficult dilemmas that often center on the lack of governmental accountability. Perhaps decentralized blockchain technologies
will ensure transparency better than traditional methods. Many governments are exploring notarization techniques and registry systems based on blockchain ecosystems. Whether the rule of code and algorithms will turn out to ensure better security and integrity than the rule of law, only time will tell. In the banking world, cryptographic clearance and settlement for financial transactions are explored by all major organizations. Digital cryptocurrencies are probably the most publicized aspect of blockchain technology. They are discussed here in-depth. Another key area, crucial in any economic activities, is computable contracts that can be executed autonomously on a peer-to-peer blockchain network. From the perspective of a blockchain programmer, this book is a valuable resource. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Lower-division undergraduates through faculty.

8. Islam and the rule of justice : image and reality in Muslim law and culture. Rosen, Lawrence. Chicago, 2018. 280p bibl index, 9780226511573 $105.00, 9780226511603 $35.00, 9780226511740 $35.00
Rosen’s lifetime career working with Sharia practice informs his argument that traditional Islamic courts emphasize not so much the rule of law but the rule of justice. Taking individuals into account, they serve their society well by analyzing interpersonal indebtedness and relationships and who litigants are, rather than facts and law. Rosen (Princeton) asserts that for most Arabs “society is better served by webs of obligation than impersonal roles,” and courts offer participants a sense of honest integrity not dependent on abstract state power. This idea leads to fascinating chapters on such topics as women’s success in Sharia courts and a contextualization of Zacarias Moussaoui’s behavior at his trial that makes his actions appear obviously rational. There is also a critique of most Western approaches to the so-called Arab Spring and the Arab middle class, and a theory of corruption. Rosen applies ideas from contracts and walls to Arab-Israeli tensions—in a way Rosen admits his colleagues did not find compelling. This book responds to popular but misguided ideas in Western culture about Sharia practice, and is a needed counterbalance to the stereotype shaped by extremist Muslim interpretations of Islamic jurisprudence. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

The Founders features autobiographical profiles of major architects of the international criminal tribunals in Yugoslavia and Rwanda (Richard J. Goldstone), Sierra Leone (David Crane), Cambodia (Robert Petit), and the International Criminal Court (Luis Moreno Ocampo), whose pioneering prosecutorial work set the foundation for the current international criminal court system. In an engaging series of essays, each provides firsthand accounts of their involvement in the creation of these institutions, offering personal reflections on their evolution. As a compilation of their stories, the book is a unique contribution to the literature on the history of international tribunals, and the narratives provide insights not found elsewhere. Though the book is targeted at academic audiences, it is written in an informal style non-experts can easily follow. Four additional chapters by international law experts provide context. All the Missing Souls: A Personal History of the War Crimes Tribunals (CH, Jul’12, 49-6539), by David Scheffer, one of the contributors, is a complementary book. Although not an essential purchase, The Founders should find a welcome home in law libraries with specialized collections in international criminal law. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.
Using the insights of critical legal and racial subordination scholarship from the 1980s onward, Golub (Scripps College) concludes that color-blind constitutionalism as either a fixed standard (conservative) or a redemptive goal (liberal) will never achieve racial democracy: “America is founded upon and remains constituted by the exercise of racial domination.” Racial equality requires deeper political, economic, and cultural change than the Constitution allows. In deconstructing Justice Harlan’s dissent in Plessy v. Ferguson (1896) through Brown v. Board of Education (1954) to the endless series of court cases regarding school desegregation and affirmative action, Golub concludes that both sides in these disputes ignore a hard truth: “the legal arguments, identities, advocacy groups, and political ideologies that form around this debate will of necessity be products of racial consciousness in one form or another.” Left out of his argument is the marked success of previously shunned racial, ethnic, and religious groups, such as Jews, Mormons, Chinese, Japanese, and East Indians, whose social/cultural capital and solidarities have propelled them far above the white majority. Golub’s “counter-hegemonic intellectual work” might usefully be countered by Thomas Sowell’s Discrimination and Disparities (Basic Books, 2018). Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

This book, edited by a distinguished constitutional law scholar and a distinguished scholar of public education, contains a collection of essays by scholars in these two fields. Collectively, the essay examine Justice Scalia’s opinions on these topics. The book focuses on Scalia’s theories of textualism and originalism as they apply to issues of school desegregation, school choice, religion and education, and public finance of education, as well as still other issues. The editors recruited experts to review Scalia’s views on these subjects. Each essay—on “rugged originalism,” race and gender, school choice, the theory of “original meaning” of the constitution, and the use of scientific expertise in litigation—is a gem. Together they provide balanced accounts of Scalia’s philosophy, and examine its implications in concrete cases. The authors are not uniformly convinced of Scalia’s approaches, and so the reader is introduced to weighty alternative approaches in ways that enhance the book. As a whole, these essays provide an excellent window into Scalia’s jurisprudence. If a reader wants to understand what is distinctive about Scalia’s jurisprudence and why he is controversial, this short book is an excellent introduction. It is ideal for students of the Supreme Court and general readers who want an introduction to the intellectual currents swirling on the current Supreme Court. Summing Up: Highly recommended. General readers; upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

August 2018 Reviews

1. Thriving in an all-boys club: female police and their fight for equality. Rabe-Hemp, Cara E. Rowman & Littlefield, 2018. 207p bibl index, 9781442274297 $38.00, 9781442274303 $36.00
Rabe-Hemp (Illinois State University) uses women’s firsthand accounts, media stories, and academic research to present the experiences of women in the US police force in the 1980s, 1990s, and present day. She weaves together the structural forms of inequality that women face in a nontraditional occupation—harassment, gatekeeping for sex segregation, barriers to advancement, etc. along with the cultural stereotypes of gender and motherhood that serve as barriers for women in police work. Rabe-Hemp explores how the field of police work has changed over the decades and how gendered
conceptions impacted and were impacted by those changes. Importantly, the author contributes to academic discussions of the social construction of gender at work and how those conceptions trace back to some of the earliest examples of women in police work. Written in an accessible format, Roth-Hemp’s book blends an academic analysis of a highly gendered occupation with concrete advice and recommendations for women and men in police work. Summing Up: Recommended. General collections, lower-division undergraduates, and professionals.

2. Law enforcement in the age of Black Lives Matter: policing black and brown bodies. ed. by Sandra E. Weissinger and Dwayne A. Mack. Lexington Books, 2018. 216p bibl index, 9781498553599 $95.00, 9781498553605 $90.00

Although many aspects of law enforcement in its function of social control have been well documented, much less analyzed are the mechanisms, beliefs, and ideologies that govern police policies, enforcement, discourse, and, by extension, the minority experience, particularly of black and brown people. Seeking active engagement, reform, and social justice in the age of Black Lives Matter, Weissinger and Mack masterfully document one of the country’s most consequential historical issues—social and criminal injustice by the criminal justice system, particularly in police institutions. Contributing authors vividly assess and masterfully delineate the historical, social, legal, philosophical, and ideological forces shaping and reshaping the black and Latino/a experience with police and the mainstream US. In the current highly charged political climate, the book is a timely education in policing minority communities and race/ethnic relations and vital for sociology, history, ethnic/minority studies, and criminal justice collections. Definitely a must read for anyone interested in better understanding the black and brown experience with police in the US and for those vested in positive transformation as Americans strive for better lives, a better future. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All public and academic levels/libraries.

3. Stick together and come back home: racial sorting and the spillover of carceral identity. Lopez-Aguado, Patrick. California, 2018. 226p bibl index, 9780520288584 $85.00, 9780520288591 $29.95, 9780520963450

Sociologist Lopez-Aguado (Santa Clara Univ.) provides an in-depth, detailed example of the ways in which the criminal justice system replicates the racist inclinations of the larger society. The author tracks 70 subjects as they wind their way through the criminal justice system, which serves as a machine of racism that further inculcates the whims of the dominant culture. The book serves as an excellent application of labeling theory, as it exposes the system’s efforts to sort and judge people based on their racial characteristics, not necessarily on the threat they pose to society. For example, prisoners are grouped along racial lines, ostensibly to quell racial tensions within the prisons. The practice only enhances the “us versus them” mentality and the defensiveness that is inherent in the newly incarcerated. The resulting paradigm is then exported back into the community when the prisoner is released. In minority “high incarceration” neighborhoods, this reinforced paradigm only drives the wedge between racial groups deeper, and facilitates the incarceration loop ad infinitum. In this way, the system at once reflects and reproduces the racist views of the society it serves, ensuring that the racial divide is exacerbated. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above.

Law professor Reitz (Univ. of Minnesota) has edited a volume of 11 lengthy papers plus an introduction on the US divergence from other Western nations in its high rates of violent crime combined with a punitive approach in the treatment of offenders. Central problems addressed include mass incarceration, racial disparities, use of capital punishment, a rise in probation supervision rates and punitiveness, a decline in parole release, and an increase in fines and forfeitures in disproportionate and discriminatory ways. In addition, the collateral consequences of convictions on the reintegration of offenders separate the US from much of the developed world. Even more troubling is that there appears to be little change in these policies despite a drop in serious crimes since the early 1990s. Solutions will be difficult. “For those who would advocate major changes, however, one serious problem will be the difficulty of ground-level, unglamorous implementation” in the face of crime-mongering rhetoric in the US political system. An interesting contribution, analogous to Mugambi Jouet’s Exceptional America: What Divides Americans from the World and from Each Other (CH, Oct’17, 55-0819), which addresses exceptionalism from a broader social perspective. Summing Up: Recommended. Graduate students and faculty.


Private prisons are for-profit companies that own prisons and run government-owned facilities. They are multinational, multibillion dollar businesses traded on the stock exchange, but the few books on the topic are often by journalists and activists. Eisen's comprehensive and thorough examination of the topic “endeavors a fair-minded look” at the industry and largely delivers through her exhaustive literature review, reporting on site visits, and interviews. The 11 chapters include the birth of private prisons, prisoners as commodities, politics, immigrant detention, and conceptual arguments about whether prisons are a government function like trash collection that can be privatized. On each topic, Eisen (senior counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice) provides a great deal of information that represents many sides of the debate. While this wealth of information and anecdote is organized into sections within chapters, many of the sections are quite short, and the connections between them are underdeveloped. Likewise, neither individual chapters nor the book itself has conclusions where the author extracts keys points or synthesizes important findings. Nevertheless, an important book. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above. Professionals.

6. Ruth Bader Ginsburg's legacy of dissent: feminist rhetoric and the law. Gibson, Katie L. Alabama, 2018. 170p bibl index, 9780817319786 $44.95, 9780817391751 $44.95

The quality of the handsome cover of this book is a clue to the quality of this treatment of Justice Ginsburg’s influence on American law. The focus is Ginsburg’s introduction of a feminist perspective on the way people understand the United States Constitution’s provisions on equal protection. Gibson (Colorado State) draws on theories of language to explain how Ginsburg, first as an advocate and then as a justice, showed Americans how to think differently about the meaning of sexual equality and protections from discrimination against women. The text is grounded in the old inequalities that kept women from the public sphere. It discusses cases such as Reed v. Reed with its requirement to justify sexual distinctions. Provocatively, it illuminates Ginsburg’s reframing of the abortion argument, beginning with Roe v. Wade, from privacy to equality. With more than a little enthusiasm for Ginsburg’s popularity as “Notorious RBG,” the author incorporates popular culture into the world of constitutional
law. She shows how the Supreme Court and the language by which Americans know the Constitution constitute American politics. And the bibliography is exceptional. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

What is feminism when it meets power? That question dominates this book as it asks what is “governance feminism,” or the set of beliefs that define mainstream feminism from the perspective of what has been enacted into law and what has obtained governing legitimacy. The first half of the book is authored by Halley (Harvard) and describes the split between liberal-versus-dominance and cultural feminism. The discussion here is an excellent overview of the contrasting views on feminism and what the differences mean both theoretically and from an institutional perspective. The first third of the book looks at what areas of law feminism has transformed. The remainder is international, exploring feminism and rape laws in India, sex trafficking in Israel, and abortion and gender selection, mostly in the US. Overall, the book delivers a good summary of which feminist theories have prevailed and can be seen as the governing ones. Excellent for collections on feminism and women’s rights. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

Charles is a well-known scholar on the history of gun rights. His work has been cited by 5 of the 13 US Courts of Appeals and even by the US Supreme Court. In this new work, the author takes an exhaustive look at how the meaning of keeping and bearing arms has changed over time since that right was first included in the 1689 English Declaration of Rights and, later, in the Second Amendment of the US Constitution. Originally proposed by the founders as a way to achieve the end of republican liberty through a militia of citizens, by the mid-1800s it had morphed into an armed citizenry model dominated by the notion of individual self-defense. In the early 20th century, the courts tied ownership of arms to the proviso of a well-regulated militia but, by the end of the 20th century and early 21st, gun rights advocates led by the National Rifle Association had recast the entire gun rights debate as good guys who stand for gun rights and bad guys who want gun control, a narrative easily sold in these times of division and difference. Highly recommended for all readers. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

Watson (Northwestern) begins Scarlet A by noting that abortion is surprisingly common; roughly 30 percent of American women 45 or older have had one or more abortions. Yet despite this, she notes, the contemporary American discussion of abortion is toxic, and the practice is widely stigmatized. Watson is a bioethicist and a lawyer, and she seeks to contribute to the debate over abortion by offering reasoned, balanced arguments. She outlines how abortion is practiced in the US—an issue often overlooked. Then, drawing on judicial opinions, she explores the vocabulary used in discussing abortion, noting that words do not merely express views, they also serve to shape them. With this in hand she addresses the ethics of abortion. Her discussion is based on the fact that abortion is legal in the US, and so she moves away from talking about "rights" (which she regards as a settled issue) to "the right thing to do." Engagingly written, and replete with examples, this is an excellent addition to the extensive
literature on abortion. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

10. **Boundaries of the international : law and empire.** Pitts, Jennifer. Harvard, 2018. 293p index, 9780674980815 $45.00
How did international law develop and spread? That is a key question here. The answer is complicated, but part of it involves European empire and colonization. Europe saw the outside world as consisting of “uncivilized” nations, so it became natural to supply law and order in the European fashion. This helped spread international law, but with a focus on Europe. Europeans believed they had the sole prerogative to bring law to the world, thus supplying justification to use colonization and war to spread European law and standards. In addition, the Europeans used treaties and military aid to impose law. Pitts (Chicago) provides a thorough engagement with the historical role of international law. This is arguably a deep text requiring a certain level of understanding of law and history. Of interest to political scientists and historians, but not an introductory text to the topic. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Graduate students through faculty.

11. **Cyberspace and cybersecurity, 2nd ed.** Kostopoulos, George K. CRC Press, 2017. 291p bibl index, 9781138057715 $79.95, 9781315116488 $71.96
In the second edition of Cyberspace and Cybersecurity, Kostopoulos (Univ. of Maryland University College) provides a robust primer on the varied aspects of cyberspace and cybersecurity in a highly readable format suitable for laypeople and students. Despite the complexities of the topic, Kostopoulos succeeds in providing a text for “non-cybersecurity techies” without sacrificing content. He begins by examining the vulnerabilities in information systems from the triangular view of people, hardware, and software before offering information on securing and defending these systems. Following this is an overview of related topics, including international and US cybersecurity law, war and homeland security, digital currencies, and cybercrime. Topics often overlooked in preliminary textbooks on cybersecurity, such as human factors and cyber ethics, are also addressed. The second edition is updated throughout with a new passage on encryption key management; updates to many topics, including mobile telephony and ransomware defense; and a new, much-needed chapter on digital currencies. Well organized and concise with complete references, this is an essential read for anyone interested in learning the fundamentals of cybersecurity. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Lower-division undergraduates, technical program students, and professionals.

July 2018 Reviews

1. **Beyond abortion : Roe v. Wade and the battle for privacy.** Ziegler, Mary. Harvard, 2018. 383p index, 9780674976702 $45.00
Most Americans know the case of Roe v. Wade, and this book provides historical context as to why Roe became a household name. The case has been popularly interpreted as an abortion case, a privacy case, and a feminist case. Each view is explored in the context of Roe and the cases that cite it. The book explores the precedential arguments brought to various causes, from same-sex marriage to the right to refuse treatment. It also provides the history of social movements that relied on Roe to make progress. This in-depth look at the right to privacy, how it has been interpreted by different social movements, and their arguments is balanced with the stories of individuals within the movements. It is heavily
footnoted and well balanced in its views of the resources cited. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-
division undergraduates through faculty.

9780674975811 $39.95, 9780674986114
Fallon (Harvard) blends legal, philosophical, and political analysis into a larger theory of constitutional
decision-making. Unlike his predecessors, Fallon does not try to establish an approach that all judges
should take to reach the correct decision. Instead, his approach could best be described as meta-
theory. He is driven by the practical concern of maintaining legitimacy for the Supreme Court. Are judges
deciding cases based on personal preferences, or are they constrained by law, whatever that might
mean for each individual judge? After reviewing the shortcomings of original public meaning, historical
interpretation, and precedent, Fallon turns to Rawls for guidance. Fallon develops the reflective
equilibrium theory, which provides a mechanism by which judges can legitimately change their
approach to the constitution over time and thus not be locked into an unchanging theory of decision-
making. This provides a means by which the legitimacy of judicial decisions can be evaluated, and which
judges could adopt to protect the judiciary from claims of partisanship. Practical and philosophical,
Fallon’s book prompts readers to revisit constitutional theories in a fresh and valuable way. Summing
Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

University, 2018. 193p index, 9780814775981 $50.00, 9781479812585
This book provides excellent interdisciplinary insight on the historical, rhetorical, religious, cultural,
social, political, economic, stereotypical, and legal aspects of how American marriage laws gradually
expanded from 1971 until 2015 to include same-gender couples without impinging on opposite-gender
couples’ ability to marry. Rollins (Queens College) closely examines arguments raised by proponents and
defendants, as well as the details of published opinions of state and federal appellate courts pivotal to
impacting final decisions by the US Supreme Court. His legal research is similar to that at the core of his
previous book, AIDS and the Sexuality of Law (CH, Sep’04, 42-607). Rollins’s reference notes point to
specific testimony delivered by pro-heteronormative legal teams critical to yielding judicial decisions in
favor of the opposition’s expansionary goals for LGBTQ citizens. The nuances of these detailed judicial
opinions become fuel for future research on public policy, civil rights, jurisprudence, and questions of
unforeseen consequences when putting experts into a courtroom. Although this book incorporates
courtroom legal jargon, overall it is very accessible to undergraduates. Summing Up: Highly
recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

University, 2018. 276p index, 9781479845040 $89.00, 9781479839834 $30.00, 9781479845286
The US Constitution declares that Congress makes law subject to presidential veto. Overlooked in this
model is how law or policy really is the product of competition and conflict among the Congress,
president, and Supreme Court. The latter two can act at any time to initiate changes in congressional
policy through executive orders or court rulings. This means that the real policy might be something far
different from what Congress originally enacted; it is a product of drift. Examining this drift is the subject
of this book. It selects privacy, civil rights, and climate control as three policy areas to demonstrate how
the three branches work together to craft and alter policy. The book’s thesis is that understanding how
all three branches are involved in making policy is a far more accurate way of understanding the US

Historian Hinnershitz (Cleveland State Univ.) offers an important addition to southern civil rights history with this careful, accessible study of Asian American legal and organizational challenges to Jim Crow laws and de facto practices. Her comparative investigation examines the efforts of Chinese migrants in Florida, Japanese American farmers in Louisiana, Filipino entertainers in Georgia, Vietnamese fisherman in Texas, and South Asian American hoteliers in Georgia to challenge segregated schools, racist "alien land laws," anti-miscegenation laws, racist criminal justice practices, racially motivated "buy American" and "American-owned" movements, and discriminatory corporate practices. The author’s research centers on careful readings of court cases and appeals and oral histories across the 20th century from the 1920s to the 1980s. While the numbers of Asian Americans living in the US South at this time were small, the history of these efforts remains vital to understanding the development of that region. Hinnershitz’s use of racial formation and critical race theories to develop an analysis of this particular chapter of US history strengthens the book, but further work is needed to locate the events in their transnational processes, in relation to the Black Freedom Movement, and in the context of emergent global capitalism. Summing Up: Recommended. All levels/libraries.

6. The Holocaust, corporations, and the law: unfinished business. Bilsky, Leora. Michigan, 2017. 239p index, 9780472073610 $75.00, 9780472053612 $29.95, 9780472123094
In this heavily documented work, Bilsky (Tel Aviv Univ., Israel) examines how the procedures of transnational Holocaust litigation (THL) offer the possibility for holding corporations accountable for inhuman behavior. Bilsky begins with the Nuremberg trials, noting that their emphasis on individual criminal liability allowed evasion of corporate responsibility for actions taken under the Nazis. Finally, in the 1980s the use of the 1789 Alien Tort Statute combined with class action suits allowed a basis in American courts to move beyond criminal law into the broader scope of civil liability. Bilsky then describes how these efforts bore fruit in different settlements involving Swiss banks and German corporations. She argues that the monetary nature of these agreements still allowed defendants to claim humanitarian purposes. The final three chapters explain how the required opening of corporate archives for historical research and the commissioning of individual corporate histories have established responsibility for corporate actions under the Nazis, despite continuing, and “deluded,” claims of political necessity. This study is a valuable use of THL to indicate some of the procedural approaches that are available for invoking transnational norms of justice against corporate transgressions of such standards. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.

7. America's two constitutions: a study of the treatment of dissenters in time of war. Reed, Thomas J. Fairleigh Dickinson, 2017. 465p bibl index, 9781683931126 $130.00, 9781683931133 $123.50
This book is a careful and thoughtful analysis of the tension between the written, formal US Constitution of 1787 and what Reed (emer., law, Widener Univ.) calls the “living” constitution of the US as it has evolved in practice and through judicial review over the centuries since ratification. The author focuses on the inherent tension between the presidential power to make war and the individual liberties guaranteed to US citizens in the Bill of Rights and elsewhere. The larger problem, as Reed sees it, is
whether moral consequentialism (utilitarian ethics) authorizes the president and the federal
government to do just about anything they think necessary to protect the state in time of war, and in so
doing violate the historic rights of individuals. Reed surveys all of US constitutional history leading up to
the forceful behavior of George W. Bush’s global war on terror to demonstrate that, when push comes
to shove, Americans (their courts and legislatures) have been willing to subordinate individual liberty to
national security. Well-informed readers will not be surprised by Reed’s conclusions, but they will find
little to disagree with in his well-informed account. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division
undergraduates and above.

June 2018 Reviews

1. Solitary: the inside story of supermax isolation and how we can abolish it. Kupers, Terry Allen.
California, 2017. 191p bibl index, 9780520292239 $24.95, 9780520965737
Kupers, a forensic psychologist, is one of the nation's foremost experts on solitary confinement. His
book is a timely and important contribution to the field. Kupers has toured dozens of "supermax"
prisons and given expert testimony in over 40 cases on conditions of confinement and its effects on
mental health. His experiences observing prisons and interviewing prisoners subjected to solitary
confineent have given rise to this book, an effort to expose the many serious problems associated with
solitary confinement, and to abolish it. Kupers argues that solitary confinement damages individuals
psychologically and removes them from social connections, particularly disrupting family life. Already
existing social inequalities and power imbalances that disadvantage young people, women, and racial
and ethnic minorities are made worse via a "culture of punishment" with solitary at its apex. Kupers
challenges readers to envision alternatives to damaging segregation practices. He suggests that a
"rehabilitative attitude" can lead us away from the worst penal abuses and toward reclaiming wayward
individuals and our own damaged civic morality. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division
undergraduates through faculty.

2. Writing the world of policing: the difference ethnography makes. ed. by Didier Fassin.
Chicago, 2017.
301p bibl index,9780226497501 $90.00, 9780226497648 $30.00, 9780226497785 $30.00
Policing is an important topic in criminal justice research, discussion, and debate. In this edited
collection's 12 chapters, scholars from across the globe explore the institution of policing. The authors
discuss policing in South Africa, India, Taiwan, Mozambique, Turkey, Chile, Bolivia, Thailand, Portugal,
France, and the US. As the field of criminology has matured, the use of quantitative methods to analyze
social phenomena has become widespread. This book breaks from the trend by taking an ethnographic
approach to examining police and policing. The contributing authors specifically examine topics such as
discretion, violence, and training. Each chapter contains a full bibliography and a list of notes for further
details on claims and statements made throughout the text. This informative, well-written book will be a
valued addition to university library collections seeking to support anthropology, sociology, or
 criminology and criminal justice programs. It could serve as a resource for research or as assigned
reading for graduate seminars concerning policing or qualitative research methods in criminology and
3. Regulating the lives of women: social welfare policy from Colonial times to the present, 3rd ed. 
Abramovitz, Mimi. Routledge, 2018. 316p index, 9780415785495 $150.00, 9780415785501 $39.95, 9781315228150 $39.95

Patriarchy, which subordinates white, middle-class women, as well as women of color, predates history, but the addition of capitalism in the early 19th century further cemented the distinction between the sexes. The industrial family ethic requires women (the majority recipients of welfare) to marry, maintain the home provided by the breadwinner’s labor, and raise the next generation of homemakers (women) and breadwinners (men). The state further discriminates against single and divorced women for not conforming to this traditional role, thus failing to fulfill their primary responsibility. Through early history, poverty was seen as God’s will, but as capitalism developed it came to be seen as an individual failing, and increasingly the poor were criminalized. The Depression brought on the (reluctant) welfare state, which introduced Social Security, again favoring men with increased benefits. In the 1980s, attacks on welfare developed with the rise of neoliberalism, which further eroded the position of women. This solid work (first ed.1988, CH, Mar’89, 26-4159) appropriately emphasizes the historic and continuing plight of women in the social welfare system. Social feminist Abramovitz (Hunter College, CUNY) offers detailed suggestions to level the playing field and improve economic opportunities for women. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All academic levels/libraries.

4. Intellectual disability and the death penalty: current issues and controversies. by Marc J. Tassé and John H. Blume. Praeger, 2018. 176p bibl index, 9781440840142 $48.00, 9781440840159 One will have a difficult time finding a topic more controversial than the death penalty. Yet Tassé (OSU) and Blume (Cornell) aim to clearly outline why capital punishment is unfair and inconsistent, particularly in relation to intellectual capacity. The authors offer a history of capital punishment and outline the legal challenges to the imposition of death as the ultimate punishment. Introductory chapters provide history and context for the modern-day death penalty system. Tassé and Blume detail Atkins v. Virginia, the seminal case on capital punishment and intellectual disability. Dissecting the court’s decision, the authors help show the impact of Atkins and address some post-Atkins decisions at lower-court levels. No literature considers this many cases post Atkins. The book finishes by examining the capital punishment landscape after Atkins, yet another topic not heavily researched. Legal scholars would be wise to read Intellectual Disability and the Death Penalty as it can assist in understanding both the law and the culture surrounding the death penalty. This is an important book best suited for anyone generally interested in issues related to capital punishment in the US. Summing Up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.


Tyler (Yale) and Trinkner (Arizona State) pull together social and behavioral science research as well as legal research to explore how American youth are socialized to follow the rule of law by following rules first. This book looks at family, school, and justice systems to see just how these impact children and create reasons for them to follow the law. To children, the law is expressed in rules and norms in the household and the classroom. By reviewing the research and literature, the authors uncover how children learn about how the law works, develop reasoning skills, and learn to assess the risk of breaking the law as adults. This book also looks at how children are socialized to recognize that law and legal systems are legitimate and should be obeyed. Though this is a dense topic, it is an easy read and a
fascinating introduction to the topic of socialization in the law. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-
division undergraduates through faculty.

Georgetown University, 2017. 228p bibl index, 9781626164345 $49.95, 9781626164352 $24.95,
9781626164369 $24.95
Climate change is a scientific, political, economic, and religious problem—and a violence problem,
argues author O’Brien (Christian Ethics, Pacific Lutheran Univ.). The author of multiple books on religion
and ecology, O’Brian here brings a unique perspective to the problem of climate change, positing that it
is foremost the result of structural violence in which those who are the planet’s most privileged—the
economically secure citizens of industrialized nations—perpetuate a destructive system that harms the
less privileged as well as all living beings. O’Brien then considers five leaders of the nonviolent resistance
as examples of how to stand up against pervasive societal injustice: John Woolman (1720–72), Jane
Addams (1860–1935), Dorothy Day (1897–1980), Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–68), and Cesar Chavez
(1927–93). While O’Brian emphasizes that combating climate change is beyond any single individual’s
power, there is nevertheless an individual mandate for privileged people to stand up for environmental
ethics within the realm of social justice. This book is a powerful addition to the developing study of
environmental and social justice. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through
faculty and professionals.

Toronto, 2017. 219p bibl index, 9781487502898 $32.95, 9781487516246 $32.95
Over half a century ago, Hannah Arendt provided firsthand coverage of the trial of the century—Adolf
Eichmann in Israel. Now comes Freedman (Western Univ., Canada) providing a firsthand account of the
first criminal trial at the International Criminal Court. He covers the trial of Thomas Lubanga, accused of
using children as soldiers during the civil war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Freedman was on
the ground in DR Congo and saw these children up close. He decided to watch Lubanga’s trial as it
proceeded through the morass of international criminal law. What he saw was not pretty, giving life to
the adage to never watch how the sausage is made. Freedman speaks directly with various participants
in the trial and details events inside the courtroom. His account is quite personal, and there is no claim
to impartiality; Freedman is clear as to where he stands on Lubanga’s guilt and how he sees the
performance of trial participants. This personal opinion may rankle some, but readers who look beyond
that will find themselves in the courtroom of the first ever international court and see how law is made.
Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

466p index, 9780316303590 $30.00, 9780316303606 $14.99
Opening with a visit to Guantánamo Bay, Pitzer provides a narrative history of the concentration camp,
making it clear that this history both predates and postdates the Holocaust. From origins in the late-
19th- and early-20th-century campaigns to pacify Cuba, southern Africa, and the Philippines, the
practice of isolating and holding “groups of civilians outside the normal legal process” spread to varied
regimes around the world: both to Western democracies and varied dictatorships. Pitzer employs
individual examples throughout the book to draw readers in. They meet a series of individuals who
encountered the world of concentration camps: some, like Leon Trotsky, famous; others, more obscure.
For historians, Pitzer’s work on the extension of concentration camps during WW I stands out. European
states made a “choice to inject the framework of war into society itself.” Thus, the war linked the early history of camps with their later development in the USSR and Nazi Germany. A more analytical approach is possible, but this is an interesting and valuable book. For undergraduate and graduate collections. Summing Up: Recommended. All levels/libraries.

General William Tecumseh is credited with saying, “It is only those who have neither fired a shot nor heard the shrieks and groans of the wounded who cry aloud for blood, more vengeance, more desolation. War is hell.” The idea of war as hell is not a new one; however, few have thoughtfully explored war’s destructive capacities as they relate specifically to our environment. Smith, a former editor of Earth Island Journal, here presents a collection of provocative essays that bring substantial analysis and insight into the myriad ecological ills of war. Contributors to this volume include a range of activists and experts, such as Helen Caldicott, Michael Klare, Daniel Ellsberg, Jane Goodall, and many others. This collection brings together new and classic writings and touches on a broad array of topics, from refugees to drones to nuclear proliferation. Also included are a series of essays examining the devastating impacts of human conflict on various geographical regions around the world, including Syria, Vietnam, and Ukraine. A powerful collection that provides a much-needed perspective to the implications of warfare for the planet as a whole. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All readers.

In this comprehensive and meticulously researched book, Chopas (law, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) documents the processes and policies that led to hundreds of Italian nationals and residents in the US being interned during WW II. While most scholarly research has focused on the experiences of Japanese Americans during this time period, Chopas extends the examination to a heretofore largely ignored group of citizens, examining how the legal structures in place (as well as newly created policies and decisions by governmental agents) contributed to repression of this group. Additionally, she recounts stories of some former internees, illustrating poignantly the challenges they faced trying to reintegrate into US society after the war, and highlighting how their treatment affected the Italian American community as a whole. This thought-provoking and well-researched work incorporates resources from numerous archives throughout the country. It may also serve as a “cautionary tale” for the contemporary US as it grapples with issues of national security in an era of seemingly continual terrorist threat. In sum, an important contribution to Italian American studies (specifically) and US ethnic history (in general). Summing Up: Highly recommended. Faculty/professionals.

May 2018 Reviews

1. Gender, crime & justice: exploring the dynamics. Wilczak, Andrew L. Rienner, 2017. 291p bibl index, 9781626376595 $85.00, 9781626376601 $32.50, 9781626377103 $32.50
Wilczak (criminology and sociology, Wilkes Univ.) provides an excellent introduction to the topics of gender, crime, and punishment and how the fields of sociology and criminology have studied these issues to date. His approach is serious but accessible, making the book ideal for undergraduates or students without a lot of background in sociological theory. Weaving together classical theories, recent
empirical studies, and contemporary examples from the news and media, Wilczak presents the complex subjects of gender, intersectionality, and criminal justice in relatable ways. The breadth of topics is impressive, ranging from gangs to child pornography. The book would be strengthened by moving the chapter on intersectionality from the conclusion to earlier in the book and by attending to Patricia Hill Collins’s work on the subject. Similarly, Judith Butler’s analysis of the performativity of gender would add nuance to the author’s discussion of gender early in the text. But overall, Wilczak provides a thorough overview of the existing theory and research on these important topics. The book is sure to spark interest in the topics presented and may inspire readers to fill in the empirical gaps relating to these subjects. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All public and academic levels/libraries.


Intended as a companion piece to the annual Crime in the United States (CH, May’13, 50-4777) series, Justice Statistics offers little more than a repackaging of select data sets from FBI and Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) reports. Editor Hattis pulls the “most relevant tables” from ten annual reports and presents them in ten corresponding sections. The largest section, nearly one-third of the book, is pulled from the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reports, which is the basis for Crime in the United States. The additional reports on victims and prison populations offer readers a more holistic approach to criminal justice, because the BJS reports are intended for policy makers, social justice advocates, and victims. Hattis includes brief descriptions of the reports and their methodologies, but she does not offer analysis or discussion. Her descriptions are easier to follow than those published by the FBI and BJS. More recent data is available online. The 2016 version of each report consulted in the book is available online and includes more data. The 2017 edition of Justice Statistics uses 2015 data. However, many readers unfamiliar with the original documents, which are geared for law enforcement professionals, will find Justice Statistics an easy volume to use. Summing Up: Recommended. All public and academic levels/libraries.


At a time when discussions of mortgage and insurance fraud, tax evasion, and academic dishonesty abound, Cheating is an exceptionally timely addition to the literature. In addition to addressing the three aforementioned types of cheating, Rhode (Stanford) examines cheating in sports, copyright infringement, marital infidelity, and what might be termed “organizational cheating,” such as employee theft or corporate malpractice. Although the book is replete with carefully documented examples of cheating, it fails to live up to its promise of providing “a comprehensive account of cheating in everyday life.” It lacks the theoretical framework that would be necessary for this. The book also fails to provide any original strategies for combating cheats. Instead, it simply reviews the responses to cheating that are common in the literature, such as increased ethical education, improved corporate culture, and protection for whistle-blowers. The main contribution that this volume makes is thus more empirical than theoretical, providing an exhaustively documented account of various types of cheating—interesting for general readers and useful to researchers who could mine it for examples. Summing Up: Recommended. General readers.

In 1972, the US Supreme Court ruled in *Furman v. Georgia* that the death penalty had been imposed through procedures that were not acceptable, thus invalidating the death penalty in the United States. Then, in *Gregg v. Georgia* in 1976, the Court affirmed the legitimacy of the death penalty using revised procedures. Baumgartner (UNC) et al. question whether the death penalty as it is practiced today meets the standards for constitutional legitimacy imposed in *Furman*. Baumgartner et al. address every empirical issue relevant to that question, ranging from the process by which capital punishment is meted out in jurisdictions, to which crimes in which jurisdictions merit the death penalty, to how often persons are exonerated from death row. They also provide extensive statistical evidence of differences in execution rates according to race and gender, and consider the evidence of whether the death penalty deters crime. This excellent volume is essential reading for anyone interested in the constitutionality of the death penalty. Summing Up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduates through professionals.

5. **Environmental governance reconsidered: challenges, choices, and opportunities,** 2nd ed. ed. by Robert F. Durant, Daniel J. Fiorino, and Rosemary O’Leary. MIT, 2017. 518p bibl index, 9780262533317 $35.00, 9780262272049

Durant (emer., American Univ.), Fiorino (also American Univ.), and O’Leary (Univ. of Kansas) present a comprehensive survey of relevant concerns in environmental policy and management in this second edition of Environmental Governance Reconsidered (1st ed., 2004). That the stakes are high is underscored by quotes from former NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco: “Humans have emerged as a new force of nature” and have “unwittingly embarked upon a grand experiment with our planet.” This book acknowledges the widespread perception that government agencies are dominated by financial and political elites who are disconnected from average citizens. Legislation to control carbon emissions or environmental justice on the one hand, or to reform outmoded and counterproductive environmental laws on the other, cannot get objective consideration in the US because of intense political polarization. The editors posit three overarching objectives for achieving effective environmental governance: to reconceptualize purpose, reconnect with citizens and stakeholders, and redefine administrative rationality. These objectives are supported with examples of successes in governance as well as informed assessments of how well results-based environmental governance will succeed in the new century. Given the proliferation of books on environmental themes, this effort to prioritize reality over intellectual exploration is timely. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above.


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7. Law and the wealth of nations: finance, prosperity, and democracy. Lothian, Tamara. Columbia, 2017. 426p index, 9780231174664 $35.00, 9780231545839 $34.99

The goal of Lothian’s work is to devise a path to achieving socially inclusive economic growth. She challenges the premise that the “market economy” has a single natural or necessary form because beginning there means that mitigating the inequalities of such a system can take only the form of regulation or the progressive approach (identified by Lothian) that addresses inequalities through taxation and redistribution. In effect, the progressive approach operates only on the aggregate demand side of the typical macroeconomic model. Lothian contends that the form of the market economy is expressed in institutional arrangements defined by law (which has more to do with the supply side), and her focus is on changing those components, particularly those regarding finance. She states that “We cannot organize socially inclusive economic growth without reforming the institutional arrangements of the market order, including the arrangements governing finance and its relation to the real economy.” This volume, however, is more of a vision statement than a blueprint, and a closer move toward strategies for implementation may come in the next volume of Lothian’s work. Summing Up: Recommended. Graduate students through faculty.


Was Afghanistan a landlocked backwater in the early 20th century? Historian Ahmed (Brown) demonstrates that Afghanistan was the first Islamic country to emerge after the fall of the Ottoman Empire and, as a result, was the focus of scholars from around the Islamic world. The Afghan constitution—written by Aman Allah Khan, King of Afghanistan from 1919 to 1929—and other governing documents were, the author argues, ahead of their time in bringing together Hanafi Sharia with the latest thinking of scholars from the Ottoman Empire and Islamic scholars from British India. The author’s exhaustive research uses British, Indian, Afghan, and Turkish sources. This important book is very well resourced and well written. Its research and conclusions should lead to the rethinking of the historical role of Afghanistan. But it is not for everyone. Readers will be expected to know about such things as Hanafi Fiqh, Sharia law, the history of the Ottoman Empire, the role of the British in India, and the major events and individuals in Afghanistan’s history. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All academic levels/libraries and professionals.