



1972

## Book Notes

Kentucky Law Journal

Follow this and additional works at: <https://uknowledge.uky.edu/klj>

**Right click to open a feedback form in a new tab to let us know how this document benefits you.**

### Recommended Citation

Kentucky Law Journal (1972) "Book Notes," *Kentucky Law Journal*: Vol. 60 : Iss. 3 , Article 13.

Available at: <https://uknowledge.uky.edu/klj/vol60/iss3/13>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Law Journals at UKnowledge. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kentucky Law Journal by an authorized editor of UKnowledge. For more information, please contact [UKnowledge@lsv.uky.edu](mailto:UKnowledge@lsv.uky.edu).

## BOOKNOTES

THE ENVIRONMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT. By Victor G. Strecher. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1971. Pp. 107. \$5.50.

In his book *The Environment of Law Enforcement*, Victor Strecher exposes as pure myth many of the underlying assumptions which form the attitudinal basis of the "typical" police recruit as he enters into his role-learning experience. Using documentation instead of opinion and imagination, the author examines the fallacy of the "Good Old Days" and finds that there never has been a time in this country when cities were safe and pleasant dwelling places. In this manner, Dr. Strecher attempts to furnish the working policeman with a limited sampling of social and historical perspectives which could give him a start toward understanding his role in society. In doing so, Strecher also provides the law student and practicing attorney with a useful view of the social forces which shape the policeman's role and the individual who fills it.

G.A.S.

AMERICAN POLITICS: POLICIES, POWER, AND CHANGE. By Kenneth M. Dolbeare and Murray J. Edelman. Lexington, Mass.: D. C. Heath and Company, 1971. Pp. 506. \$6.95.

This is not the usual type of political science book. The authors instead emphasize contemporary value conflicts, the sources and character of contemporary political ideologies, and the prospect of political change in the United States. The authors point out that everyone at every hour of his day, throughout practically every activity in which he engages, is affected by the consequences of politics. Whether we like it or not, we are all inevitably and permanently involved in politics. The central theme of this book is that power in the United States is concentrated in such a way that large numbers of people have relatively little concrete effect on public policies. The book's purpose is to help people acquire the skills of analysis and evaluation that will enable them to make themselves felt in the political system.

The authors' approach to political analysis stresses the question of who rules, how they rule, and what difference it makes to people and problems in the society. They do this through a focus on power. The authors pose this question: Can a government be constructed so

that it will have all the necessary power to do the things that are good, but no power to do the things that are bad? Read *American Politics* and make up your own mind.

S.D.D.

**JUVENILE DELINQUENCY: A READER.** Edited by James E. Teele. Itasca, Illinois: F. E. Peacock Publishers, Inc., 1970. Pp. 461. \$9.50.

A collection of articles from the professional journals in social science, this reader was primarily designed for use in undergraduate classes on delinquency. The major areas of controversy in this field are covered by an appropriate combination of articles using both theoretical and empirical research approaches. The materials in this book present a scholarly compilation of problems and issues from labelling to the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency, with numerous references to facilitate the exploration of special subjects.

C.S.

**THE STATE OF WELFARE.** By Gilbert Y. Steiner. Washington, District of Columbia: The Brookings Institution, 1971. Pp. 346. \$7.50.

Since their advent under the Roosevelt administration, government-sponsored family assistance programs have been political footballs. One of the planks in President Nixon's presidential campaign platform was the reform of the welfare system by making adult welfare recipients self-supporting through crash job training programs. This book discusses that proposal along with the other programs instituted by previous administrations in the thirty-five years since federal relief began. Categories of assistance given particular scrutiny in both the political and pragmatic spectrum are: aid to dependent children, food stamps, public housing and veterans' pensions. The author, in a well-documented effort, discusses the short-comings of all the efforts of the government in aiding needy families and makes the reader cognizant of the futility of the federal programs in their current form.

W.H.J.

**THE SICK SOCIETY: AN ECONOMIC EXAMINATION.** By Michael Tanzer. New York, New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., 1971. Pp. 260. \$5.95.

*The Sick Society* provides the first systematic analysis and detailed

documentation of the relationships between our corporate-dominated economy and current American social problems. This book dissects the modern corporation and shows that its overriding drive for profit maximization precludes reformers' hopes for "socially responsible" behavior. Examining the corporate sector's mechanisms for control over our political institutions, the author documents the corporate domination of society which gives rise to America's pressing current problems. For example, he shows how overseas expansionism culminated in the Vietnam War and how corporate influence has prevented America from alleviating black poverty and widespread alienation. He presents the fundamental economic problems, domestic and foreign, that are choking the sick society, and concludes with a prophecy that these will lead to a major economic breakdown.

*J.K.C.*

THE ECOLOGY OF RUNNING WATERS. By H.B.N. Hynes, Toronto, Ontario: Toronto Press, 1970. Pp. 450. \$25.00.

When one examines contemporary literature one is impressed by the ever-widening scope of legal problems raised by the destruction of our environment. This book contains an outline of the physical, chemical, and biological aspects of running water, and also acquaints the reader with the adverse effects which pollution has on this resource. The author is a distinguished scientist who has been actively engaged in research for many years in many different parts of the world. This work will serve as an excellent handbook for individuals concerned with this aspect of our ecosystem.

*E.E.A.*

NOTHING LEFT BUT MURDER. By James M. Reinhardt. Lincoln, Nebraska: Johnsen Publishing Co., 1970. Pp. 221. \$2.95.

"Why did it have to happen?" This helpless bewildered rhetoric is often cried by those who have just received news of a bizarre homicide. The author has not attempted to explain or rationalize murder, nor has he attempted to fully answer "Why?" However, for the seventeen murderers whose crimes are briefly sketched in this paperback, murder was an answer—maybe the *only* answer—to their existence. Perhaps the most appropriate synopsis of this work appears in the author's preface. He states: "There is no intention here to offer a brief for a murder or to defend murder. Life is a precious thing and

society has an irrevocable obligation to protect it. The purpose of this book is to encourage a more inquisitive and restrained interest in the question: 'Why do they kill?'

*S.S.K.*

**THE KENT AFFAIR: DOCUMENTS AND INTERPRETATIONS.** Edited by Otavio M. Casale and Louis Paskoff. Boston, Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1971. Pp. 260.

This compilation of documents, newspaper articles, photographs, and other materials is produced with the editors' hope that it may be of some use to those who are working to understand the Kent State tragedy. Although somewhat haphazardly arranged, the book succeeds in portraying the facts, as well as the confusion, dismay, and anger, surrounding the incident. Of particular interest is the section on official reports, which includes the now officially discredited Report of the Special State Grand Jury.

*D.H.W.*

**THE SILVERLAKE EXPERIMENT.** By LaMar T. Empey and Steven G. Lubeck. Chicago, Illinois: Aldine Publishing Company, 1971. Pp. 354. \$12.50.

The Silverlake Experiment was a four year field experiment in which a community alternative for dealing with delinquency was conducted and compared with a more traditional, institutional approach. The "field experiment model" (FEM) that was constructed is significant not only because of its use in this experiment, but also for the potential use of this type of model for future research. The Silverlake Experiment contains three basic parts: a formal test of sociological theory, an exploration into the problems of conducting and evaluating community programs, and an assessment of the field experiment as a tool with both practical and scientific utility. Because of its unique and comprehensive approach to delinquency, the book should be a great aid to criminologists, social workers, probation and parole officers, and policemen as well as to sociologists and other social scientists interested in deviance, social problems and research methods.

*M.J.M.*