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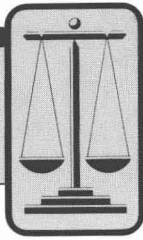
INTRODUCTION TO THE

# **CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**

**FOURTH EDITION**

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**Gerald D. Robin**  
**Richard H. Anson**



**FOURTH EDITION**

# **Introduction to the Criminal Justice System**

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, Fourth Edition

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**Introduction to the**

# **Criminal Justice System**

To my father, Jack Robin, the greatest man I know.  
And to my loving and wise mother, Sylvia.  
And to the best brother in the world, Gary Robin,  
with whom I am forever and inextricably bonded.

GDR

# To the Instructor

This text presents the contemporary criminal justice system as a related series of processing stages, based on established principles practiced by trained personnel. The major crises, controversies, and innovations are highlighted throughout the text. This approach ensures an accurate and dynamic picture of the contemporary criminal justice system. It also makes the course more interesting and relevant to students and instructors.

The fourth edition of this book is a major revision. We have made a concerted effort to introduce more historical and sociological material and to indicate the incongruities between principles and practice within the system. We have also extensively revised the text to make it completely current. When appropriate, we have gone beyond merely updating older information by attempting to offer a fresh contribution to the subject.

We have significantly enhanced the pedagogical appeal of the book. We have added more extensive commentaries to some photographs to reflect and explore problematic aspects of the topics covered in the text itself. We hope these added commentaries will stimulate class discussion in which students explore the relationship between new developments and possible responses to them. We have also worked to foster student interest with meaningful new tables, graphs, and boxes. We have chosen these very carefully, using only those that really add to the text discussion. We hope that these improvements in conjunction with the featured close-ups (boxed discussions of current and sometimes controversial topics) will prompt class discussion and careful thought.

The fourth edition retains the logical, readable, and well-structured format that escorts the student on a tour through the criminal justice system. Comprehensive and up-to-date coverage of material as well as unambiguous explanations of legal concepts and related social issues continue to be among the book's strengths. We have tried to be sensitive to the nature of the learning process and have avoided lengthy and verbose quotations, crime commission excerpts, and other documentary material. Instead, we have integrated such material thoughtfully. The book is extensively documented and draws generously on social

science research and a broad scope of legal literature sources. The only intentional frame of reference in the text is a “sociolegal” approach to the criminal justice education.

We have also retained our coverage of topics not discussed in other books: Chapter 4, “The Police and the Community”; Chapter 5, “The Professionalization of the Police”; Chapter 10, “Plea Bargaining and Speedy Trial”; and Chapter 15, “Prisoners’ Rights.”

# To the Student

This text presents the contemporary criminal justice system as a related series of processing stages, based on established principles practiced by trained personnel. The major crises, controversies, and innovations are highlighted throughout the text. This approach assures an accurate and dynamic picture of the contemporary criminal justice system. It also makes the course more interesting and relevant to students and instructors.

In part, this project developed because we felt there was a place for a textbook about the criminal justice system that was designed to meet the special needs of undergraduate students in community colleges, junior colleges, and four-year institutions.

A number of special learning aids have been incorporated into the text. Each chapter opens with a concise chapter outline that can be used as an effective study guide. Marginal notes cue you to the content of the accompanying sections. The Close-Ups expand on the text, clarifying terms or concepts and reinforcing material previously presented. They illustrate the dynamics of the administration of the criminal justice system.

We have also used extensive commentaries with some photographs (all photographs have captions and source notes) and meaningful new tables, graphs, and boxes to stimulate thought and class discussion.



# Acknowledgments

The preparation of the first three editions by Dr. Robin was a labor of love in which the author was determined to produce the “perfect” introduction to the criminal justice system. The same is true of the fourth. Although such an aspiration may be unattainable in practice, the authors have never considered that sufficient reason to stop trying.

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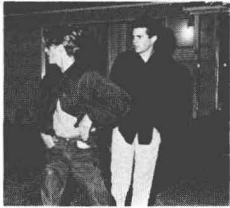
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Gerald D. Robin  
Richard H. Anson

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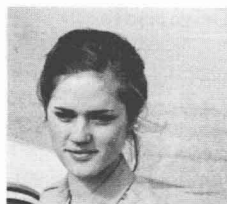
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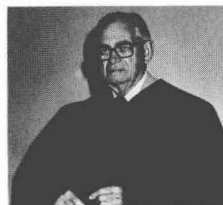
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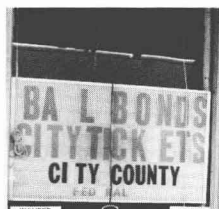
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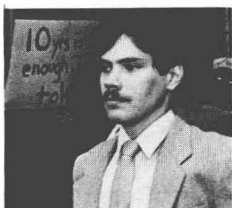
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