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CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN ACTION

THE CORE



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CRIMINAL JUSTICE **in action** **THE CORE**

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Preface

Why are more students than ever enrolling in criminal justice programs throughout the country? No doubt, the sincere desire to serve the public and help others has motivated many students to major in criminal justice. Many are hoping to find lucrative and secure jobs in criminal justice professions. Today, the career possibilities and challenges are greater than ever. Finally, some are simply drawn to the excitement of the field.

In this new text we have attempted to impart to the reader this excitement. Consequently, we have used high-interest examples throughout. We have developed numerous features, all guaranteed to keep student interest. These features have been explained in the first few pages of this preface. Even a cursory glance at this text lets you know that you are reading the introduction to criminal justice textbook that truly is for the twenty-first century.

As we enter the new millennium, more challenges than ever are facing our society, many of which involve our criminal justice system. Consider the following:

- School violence seems to be making the headlines on a regular basis. What can we do as a society to prevent not only highly publicized massacres, such as at Columbine High in 1999, but also the less well publicized shootings and other acts of aggression that plague many school districts?
- How will we adapt to increasing prison overcrowding? For the first time ever, those incarcerated throughout the United States exceeded 1.8 million, and the number is rising. Part and parcel of this problem is our overburdened court system. Is there something that the criminal justice system can do to alleviate this situation?
- The demands placed on law enforcement officers are greater than ever. The police have been redefining their role in society and, in many instances, actually reinventing the way they work.
- New technologies have influenced nearly every aspect of the criminal justice process. DNA techniques have allowed police to solve more crimes, sometimes years after they occurred. DNA investigation has even allowed some death row inmates to be freed based on negative DNA tests.
- The public's view of the criminal justice system has been increasingly molded by how the popular media portray it. Have the media been accurate? If not, is there anything we can do about it? How do we teach our students to become more critical consumers of the media?

These are the kinds of issues that face students going into the field of criminal justice.

The Genesis of *Criminal Justice in Action: The Core*

Of course you may be asking yourself why another introduction to criminal justice text had to be written. We believe we have the answer to this question: Our society is changing, as are the backgrounds and expectations of today's students. We decided to create a text that really speaks to today's students. We know from our own experiences and from those of our colleagues that many students are not really motivated to read traditional textbooks. We therefore realized that we had to come up with a book that would truly engage students while at the same time provide solid depth of content to meet course needs. That is also why we developed the fully integrated teaching/learning package for instructors and students alike (discussed below). In short, we believe that we succeeded in developing a text that students will want to read.

The Complete Learning Experience

While the text itself is filled with numerous eye-catching, instructive, and penetrating features, we have not stopped there. You will notice that the pedagogy extends from the first page of each chapter—with its outline and learning objectives—all the way through the end of each chapter, which includes a full array of pedagogical devices:

- **Criminal Justice in Action feature:** Every chapter ends with this important feature. It deals with major issues and controversies within the criminal justice system, helping students develop their own opinions on the subject discussed.
- **Cross-National CJ Comparison:** Because it is sometimes easier to teach by comparison, we felt it important to present the students with information about how our criminal justice system compares with those of other countries.
- **Criminal Justice & Technology:** Since the criminal justice field is changing so rapidly because of technology, we emphasized the important technology issues used by practitioners in the field today.
- **Criminal Justice & Popular Culture:** Many aspects of the criminal justice system have invaded popular culture. We felt this feature was important to reveal these "invasions" while at the same time commenting on their accuracy.
- **Careers in Criminal Justice:** Most students reading this book are planning a career in criminal justice. We have provided them with an insight into what some of these careers will be like by offering first-person accounts of what it is like to work in the criminal justice professions.
- **CJ in Focus:** This generic feature title covers important topics such as excerpts from important Supreme Court cases and the age-old struggle between the need to protect society and the rights of individuals.
- **Concepts Summary:** This feature helps students to master essential concepts of criminal justice. Since it is often important to compare and contrast two similar concepts to help the student understand them, many of the concepts summaries are based on comparisons.
- **Marginal Technology Features:** Our teaching/learning package offers numerous opportunities for using technology in the classroom. In the

margins you will find InfoTrac College Edition citations that lead students to very important research articles in this powerful private, password-protected, online database. In addition, there are relevant Web citations in the margins of every chapter. Finally, when appropriate, there is a CD-ROM logo displayed to show that a career feature is available in the text's companion *Careers in Criminal Justice Interactive CD-ROM*.



The Supplements

Our entire team—the three authors plus numerous individuals at Wadsworth—have put together a complete teaching package. In this package you will find:

For the Instructor

Criminal Justice Video Library Qualified adopters can select from a variety of videos, including exclusive *CNN Today* videos for Introduction to Criminal Justice, Criminology, and Juvenile Delinquency, which are tied to chapters of selected texts; an exclusive Introduction to Criminal Justice video from the *Films for the Humanities*; eight dynamic *Court TV* videos profiling some of the most famous and current cases in the judicial system; the *A&E American Justice Series*; *ABC News* and *MPI Home Video*; and the *National Institute of Justice Crime File Videos*.

Criminal Justice Faculty Development: Teaching Professors to Teach This supplement provides valuable tips on teaching criminal justice with suggested articles, worksheets, and sample syllabi.

Instructor's Resource Manual One of the most comprehensive resource manuals to accompany *Criminal Justice in Action*, this manual includes detailed outlines, chapter summaries, key terms, student and research activities, and a test bank of over 1800 test questions.

PowerPoint Presentation Slides Choose from over 500 engaging PowerPoint slides that correspond to each chapter of the text.

Transparency Acetates Enhance your lectures with 50 4-color acetates that highlight some of the most important concepts in criminal justice.

ExamView® Create, deliver, and customize tests and study guides (both print and online) in minutes with this easy-to-use assessment and tutorial system. ExamView offers both a Quick Test Wizard and an Online Test Wizard that guide you step-by-step through the process of creating tests, while its unique WYSIWYG capability allows you to see the test you are creating on the screen exactly as it will print or display online.

For the Student

Careers in Criminal Justice Interactive CD-ROM (automatically included with the book) This engaging self-exploration provides an interactive discovery of careers in criminal justice. The CD-ROM provides personalized results from a self-assessment of interests and strengths to help steer students to careers based on their profile. Students gather information on various careers from job descriptions, salaries, employment requirements, and actual video profiles of criminal justice professionals.

Crime Scenes CD-ROM An interactive CD-ROM featuring six vignettes that allows students to play various roles as they explore all aspects of the criminal justice system such as policing/investigation, courts, and sentencing and corrections. Awarded the gold medal in higher education and silver medal for video interface by New Media Magazine's Invision Awards.

Study Guide Includes chapter objectives, outlines, summaries, key terms and concepts, and a multitude of test questions in true/false, multiple-choice, matching, and essay format.

InfoTrac® College Edition Students receive four months of real-time access to InfoTrac® College Edition's online database of continuously updated, full-length articles from more than 600 journals and periodicals. By doing a simple keyword search, users can quickly generate a powerful list of related articles from thousands of possibilities, then select relevant articles to explore and/or print out for reference or for further study.

The Internet Investigator II This colorful tri-fold brochure lists the most popular Internet addresses for criminal justice-related Web sites, including URLs for corrections, victimization, crime prevention, high-tech crime, policing, courts, investigations, juvenile justice, research, and fun sites.

Internet Activities for Criminal Justice This guide teaches students the best practices for utilizing the Internet for research and includes criminal justice-specific activities that are tied to each chapter of the book.

Internet Guide for Criminal Justice Intended for the novice user, the first half of this 80-page booklet explains the background and vocabulary necessary for navigating the Web while the second half is customized for criminal justice related-Web sites as well as Internet project ideas.

Seeking Employment in Criminal Justice and Related Fields, Third Edition This book is designed to help students develop a job search strategy through resumes, cover letters, and interview techniques; it also provides extensive information on various criminal justice professions.

Web Site to Accompany Criminal Justice in Action Students and instructors will have access to the book-specific Web site that includes chapter links, discussions, Internet projects, homework, quizzes, scavenger hunts, and instructor resources. <http://cj.wadsworth.com>

The Criminal Justice Resource Center This powerful criminal justice Web site contains links to over 3000 popular criminal justice sites, grants/funding, jobs, news, list serves, convention information, instructors resources, and fun links. <http://cj.wadsworth.com>

The Challenges Lie Ahead

We believe that we have developed the most student-friendly and instructor-efficient learning/teaching package. We know that challenges await us, nonetheless. We are faced with a generation of visual learners. We believe that we have done all that is possible to interest them in our exciting and important field. We won't rest on our laurels, however. We will continue to observe how our text is used, learn about its strengths and weaknesses, and determine ways we can improve it.

To Our Readers and Consulting Experts

Numerous reviewers and consultants were kind enough to take time to help us throughout every phase of this project. We list them in alphabetical order on the following pages. We sincerely thank all of these reviewers and consultants. You performed above and beyond the call of duty. We think you will agree that your suggestions have made all the difference in this book.

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This text is a living product. We know that we can improve it and we will do so with each new edition. But we need your help. Please do not hesitate to write us with any suggestions you have.

L.G.

M.K.

R.L.M.



Dedication

This book is dedicated to my good friend and colleague, Lawrence Walsh of the Lexington, Kentucky Police Department. When I was a rookie, he taught me about policing. When I became a researcher, he has taught me about the practical applications of knowledge. He is truly a professional in our field.

—L.K.G.

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**To Shawn G. Miller,
Who has become the world's greatest researcher
(and many other things, too).**

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Contents in Brief

1 Criminal Justice Today 1

Criminal Justice in Action Crime and the Media 20

2 Measuring and Explaining Crime 29

Criminal Justice in Action The Growing Role of the Victim 48

3 Criminal Law 57

Criminal Justice in Action Terrorism and American Criminal Law 78

4 Police: Agents of Law and Order 87

Criminal Justice in Action Police and Gun Control 104

5 Policing: Organizations and Strategies 111

Criminal Justice in Action The DNA Revolution 134

6 Police and the Rule of Law 143

Criminal Justice in Action Constitutional Handcuffs? 164

7 Challenges to Effective Policing 171

Criminal Justice in Action Police in the Media: Good Guys or Bad? 190

8 Courts and the Quest for Justice 197

Criminal Justice in Action Legal Ethics on Trial:
Defending the Guilty 214

9 Pretrial Procedures and the Criminal Trial 221

Criminal Justice in Action Cameras in the Courtroom:
Is Justice Served? 246

10 Punishment and Sentencing 253

Criminal Justice in Action Victims and Retribution 274

11 Probation and Community Corrections 283

Criminal Justice in Action Boot Camps: Do They Work? 300

12 Prisons and Jails 309

Criminal Justice in Action The End of the Line:
Supermax Prisons 326

13 Behind Bars: The Life of an Inmate 335

Criminal Justice in Action Protecting the Community from Sex
Offenders 358

14 The Juvenile Justice System 367

Criminal Justice in Action Gangs and Guns 386

Glossary G-1

Index I-1

Contents

1 Criminal Justice Today 1

INTRODUCTION 2

WHAT IS CRIME 2

- The Consensus Model 3
- The Conflict Model 4
- An Integrated Definition of Crime 4
- Types of Crime 5

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM 8

- The Purpose of the Criminal Justice System 8
- The Structure of the Criminal Justice System 9
- The Criminal Justice Process 12

VALUES OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM 17

- Crime Control and Due Process: To Punish or Protect? 17
- Which Model Prevails Today? 18

Criminal Justice in Action Crime and the Media 20

- "The Charge: Sitting on a Sleeping Toddler!" • Increased Crime Coverage •
- The Distortion of Crime • Issues of Class and Race • A Possible Backlash?

- Key Terms • Chapter Summary • Questions for Critical Analysis • Selected Print and Electronic Resources • Using the Internet for Criminal Justice Analysis • Notes

Chapter 1 Appendix

How to Read Case Citations and Find Court Decisions 26

2 Measuring and Explaining Crime 29

INTRODUCTION 30

THE UNIFORM CRIME REPORT 30

- The Crime Index 31
- Part II Offenses 32
- The UCR: A Flawed Method? 32
- The National Incident-Based Reporting System 34

ALTERNATIVE MEASURING METHODS 35

- Victim Surveys 35
- Self-Report Surveys 37

Cross-National CJ Comparison

Doctor-Assisted Death and the Dutch 4

Criminal Justice & Popular Culture

The Godfather Imitates Life;

Life Imitates *The Godfather* 7