

INTRODUCTION TO

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

SEVENTH EDITION

LAWRENCE F. TRAVIS III

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Seventh Edition

Lawrence F. Travis III



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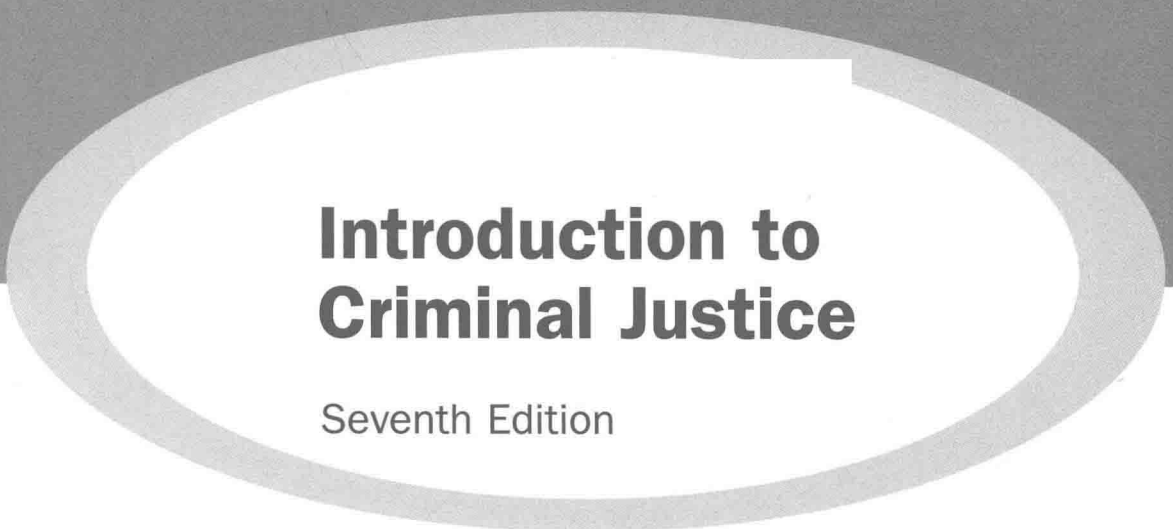
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Preface

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This revision to the sixth edition, and by extension, to the first edition was both frustrating and rewarding in the extreme. The basic system of criminal justice is unchanged and the critical, central issues of criminal justice do not vary over the years. To be sure, there are new concerns, such as homeland security and computer crime, but these issues exist in familiar contexts such as due process versus crime control and system effectiveness.

This edition maintains the same approach to criminal justice that characterized earlier editions. The central purpose of the text is to provide students with a relatively brief, affordable, and comprehensive introduction and overview of the field of criminal justice. This edition continues to rely on three basic themes: the system-like nature of criminal justice, the core conflict between due process and crime control, and the importance of discretion.

The structure of the text also remains the same. The first part sets the context for the study of criminal justice. The second part is comprised of 10 chapters that address the justice process (including the juvenile justice system), and the final chapter looks to the future. As in earlier editions, the style and vocabulary are set at the reading level of the typical college freshman. Important terms appear at the start of each chapter and are highlighted within the chapter. Each chapter contains review questions and a glossary appears at the end of the book to help students/teachers master the language and concepts of criminal justice.

New in the Seventh Edition

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As with previous editions, the most important and widespread changes in this edition of the text involve updating the references and statistical reports. It is disappointing how many facets of criminal justice operations lack up-to-date descriptions, but wherever possible, we have revised the data with the most recent information available. Similarly, the text discussion includes reference to contemporary thinking and research to ensure up-to-date coverage of these important topics.

While the core of criminal justice does not seem to change substantially, the level and breadth of scholarship and research in the field grow at a geometric rate. Photographs have been updated, and the number of photographs has been increased to add to the “visual” appeal of the book. I still believe criminal justice is a “fun” topic, and I hope that reading the book is exciting and entertaining for students as well.

There is increased discussion throughout the book of important topics like the impact of current federal attention to terrorism and homeland security and the growing emphasis on crime prevention and community quality of life that characterize all parts of the justice system. In the process, the continuing expansion of federal influence in local criminal justice is explored throughout the book. There is continuing coverage of the role of the victim and the privatization of criminal justice throughout our examination of the components of the criminal justice process.

The expanded coverage given to these topics is purposely less noticeable than the new figures and photos. One goal in writing this book is to give students a view of the forest rather than the trees. I hope to provide students with a broad grounding in criminal justice in preparation for further study. With a focus on the entire system, specific topics are not centers of attention but examples of basic principles and issues. The reader’s attention is drawn not to analyzing the growth of federal influence in local justice operations, but rather to how that federal role compares to other factors that influence practice, and how the justice system responds. After all, we want to understand the criminal justice process, not federal politics. Politics are an important influence on criminal justice operations, but only one of many.

This edition does include a purposeful focus on criminal justice theory. There are theories of criminal justice and one goal of the book is to encourage students to recognize theory and to think theoretically about criminal justice.

While the book is not organized around theory, theories are highlighted throughout the book.

I expect that this edition, like its predecessors, will encourage readers to raise questions and help them begin to find answers. I hope it also will pass the ultimate test of student use.

Acknowledgments

Writing this edition, like the earlier six, was a group project even if the book has only one author listed. Each edition adds to the number of people to whom I owe a debt of gratitude. It is not possible to list all those who have influenced my thinking about criminal justice or whose comments and suggestions have found their way into the pages of this book. All of those cited in the references have contributed to my understanding of criminal justice and my "take" on the topic. Still, there are some people I must single out for special recognition.

From LexisNexis (and the former Anderson Publishing), Bill Simon, Mickey and Susan Braswell, and Kelly Grondin were (and are) always supportive of this effort. I have had the extreme good fortune to work with Ellen Boyne as my editor. As with the previous editions, this one is a better book because of her efforts, and I am a better writer. Her dedication, competence, insight, hard work, and her patience with the author are unsurpassed. That she can work with (or in spite of?) someone as stubborn as I is simply incredible. I also want to thank Danielle Miller, Production Manager for Elsevier for her tireless efforts to complete manuscript production during the holiday season.

My colleagues at the University of Cincinnati also deserve special recognition. It is a pleasure to cite their work, and it is relatively easy to keep abreast of a rapidly developing field when surrounded by scholars of their caliber. We have grown into a large faculty over the past few years, so I will not list everyone. Mitch Chamlin, Frank Cullen, John Eck, Robin Engel, Jim Frank, Ed Latessa, Pat VanVoorhis, Pam Wilcox, John Wooldredge, and John Wright have each given me pause to think and reconsider issues and topics in criminal justice. Their influence finds its way into how I approach the topic of criminal justice and, therefore, what I write.

I have also relied on the able assistance of my professional colleagues. Steve Lab and John Whitehead originally wrote Chapter 14 on juvenile justice. Harry Allen, Todd Clear, Bob Langworthy, Gerry Vito, George Wilson, and others have made a lasting impression. My own professors, including the late Donald Newman, Rita Warren, Hans Toch, Leslie Wilkins, and Vincent O'Leary, have left an indelible mark. My students, undergraduate and graduate, have influenced me as well. I feel proud (and old) to cite their works in the book.

My greatest thanks go to my family. My sons Larry IV, Chris, and Greg have always kept me from becoming a hermit and encouraged me in their own ways. Larry actually used the book when a student at Bowling Green State

University and pronounced it "pretty interesting." I felt that was high praise indeed. My wife, Pat, did much of the editorial work. It is only with her help that I am able to work. Thank you, Pat; I love you.

As always, while I have written the book and must take ultimate responsibility for any errors it contains, I deny that responsibility. Any mistakes are clearly the product of my trusting nature and the failures of those named above.

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About the Author

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Lawrence F. Travis III is professor of criminal justice at the University of Cincinnati and director of the University's Center for Criminal Justice Research. Travis received his Ph.D. in criminal justice from the State University of New York at Albany. He has served as a research director for the Oregon State Board of Parole and as a research analyst for the National Parole Institutes.

His published works include Anderson's *Corrections: An Issues Approach* as well as *Changes in Sentencing and Parole Decision Making: 1976-1978*; *Policing in America: A Balance of Forces*; and *Probation, Parole, and Community Corrections: A Reader*. He served as coeditor of *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies and Management* and has contributed frequently to criminal justice journals.

Travis's research interests lie in policing, criminal justice policy, reform, sentencing, and corrections. He is an active member of several professional organizations, including the Academy of Crimean Justice Sciences and the American Correctional Association.

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