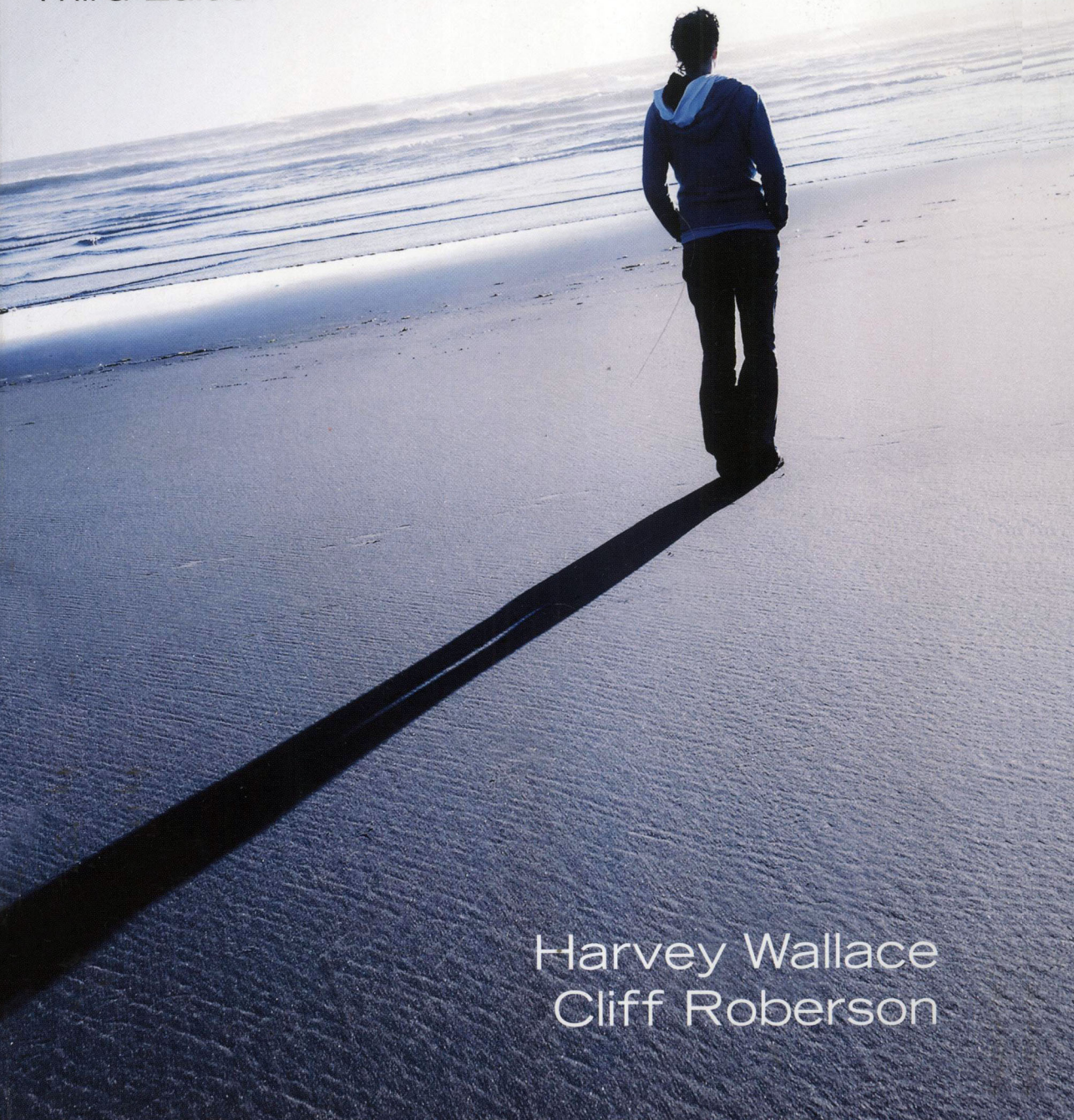


# Victimology

Legal, Psychological, and Social Perspectives

Third Edition



Harvey Wallace  
Cliff Roberson

*Third Edition*

# VICTIMOLOGY

LEGAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND SOCIAL PERSPECTIVES

Harvey Wallace

Cliff Roberson



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# **VICTIMOLOGY**

## **Dedication**

*To Paul Harvey Wallace, coauthor, friend,  
and fellow Marine.*



# PREFACE

Harvey Wallace was the sole author of the first edition of *Victimology*. Because of health problems when he was revising the textbook for the second edition, he asked for my assistance. We both assumed that his health problems were temporary. Little did we know that it would be one of the last projects that we would work on together. Harvey and I were friends and fellow Marines. We coauthored ten books over a sixteen-year time span. Harvey died shortly after completing the second edition. Before his death, he was teaching in the Victim Services Summer Institute presented by California State University, Fresno.

The study of victimology is in its infancy. However, the plight of victims of crime has been discussed for centuries. In our early history, victims were an integral part of the criminal process. We then moved away from that model, and the state became the representative of the victim. Finally, we are again moving toward acknowledging the rights of victims of crime. This shift has caused scholars to reexamine the victim–offender relationship in more detail.

Victimology as a discipline is an outgrowth of law, sociology, psychology, and criminology and as such has its distractors as well as its advocates. It will continue to grow and take on more substance with the passage of years. Any attempt to list those topics that are critical to the study of victimology is bound to generate controversy. Most textbooks on the market today include sections dealing with family violence issues. That may be because we have more information regarding the victim–offender interaction in these areas or because many scholars believe these are critical issues in the study of victimology. We have included a number of these same topics in this textbook. New to this edition are the following:

- Expanded discussion on international victimology
- New victimization theories
- Expanded discussions on terrorism
- Discussions on victims of identity theft
- Discussions on elder abuse in the future
- Discussions on negative social consequences of victimization
- Violence Against Women Act

We also drew upon Harvey Wallace's previous textbook, *Family Violence: Legal, Medical, and Social Perspectives*, as a source of information. On the basis of comments from professors using that textbook, we have updated and changed the material when appropriate to reflect the victim's perspective.

We have also attempted to take a global perspective on the study of victimology. Chapter 1 introduces the reader to the discipline of victimology, a brief history of it and victimological theories. Chapter 2 discusses the measurement of crime and its effects. The consequences of victimization are discussed in Chapter 3. Chapter 4 examines the empowerment of victims. Next, homicide victims are discussed in Chapter 5, followed by a discussion in Chapter 6 on female victims. Intimate partner abuse, child abuse, and elder abuse are discussed in Chapters 7, 8, and 9. Chapter 10 looks at hate crimes, and in chapter 11, special victim populations are discussed.

An overview of the criminal justice system is provided in Chapter 12. Chapter 13 discusses civil court proceedings, and Chapter 14 explores tort actions. The constitutional and civil rights of victims are discussed in Chapter 15. Chapter 16 explores compensation and restitution for victims. The legal issues involved with victim impact statements are covered in Chapter 17. The final

chapter examines the international aspects of victimology, and the textbook concludes with discussions on the discipline.

This is not to say that we have covered all these topics adequately. We have attempted to present an overview of some complex and controversial subjects and to supply the reader with resources in the form of references and readings that allow for more in-depth study and research of these areas. Omission of some topics, such as robbery, burglary, kidnapping, and others, does not mean that they are unimportant. Victims of these crimes would argue that they have suffered just as much as other victims. Space limitations, however, preclude discussion of every crime and its implications for victims. The crimes that are discussed, along with the broader topics such as the consequences of victimization and victims' rights, can be generalized to varying degrees to apply to all victims.

Just as we are becoming more interested in the study of family violence, so are increasingly more universities offering classes on victim issues. These classes will become more popular as students, the general public, and the various professionals who deal with victims become aware of their availability. It is a young discipline that continues to grow, and it is exciting to be present to watch that growth.

On behalf of Harvey Wallace and me, I would like to express our appreciation to a number of individuals for their support, guidance, and advice during the time it has taken to complete this project. First and foremost, I would like to thank the editor, Tim Peyton, who provided support for this project. I would also like to thank Seilesh Singh, who assisted in the preparation and copyediting of the manuscript and the project manager, Jogender Taneja for his assistance in creating the final product. Christine Edmunds, Anne Seymour, Ellen Alexander, Skip Sigmon, Trudy Gregorie, Janice Lord, Dan Eddy, Dean G. Kilpatrick, Jane Burnley, and other friends associated with various victim organizations provided their advice and guidance regarding a number of issues. Mario Gaboury, University of New Haven, and Steve Walker, Kansas Community College, provided us with invaluable suggestions and corrections that helped improve this textbook. Thanks to the following reviewers: Brown, Kathleen, *University of Pennsylvania*; Frogge, Stephanie, *Sam Houston State University*; Muscat, Bernadette T., *California State University, Fresno*; Tolbert, Tracy F., *California State University, Long Beach*; Zimmerman, Gregory, *University at Albany, SUNY*. So many of Harvey's friends, colleagues, and students have helped me with this revision, I cannot begin to name them all. Some have been there to offer words of encouragement and support: Tom Dull, Otto Schweizer, and Arthur Wint are those good friends. Many professionals, colleagues, and academics have offered advice or suggested changes that have resulted in a better product: Thomas Underwood for his suggestions about discussing more theories and Steve Walker for his update on the history of victimology are just two of those professionals. Of special note is John Dussich, who made substantial suggestions regarding the textbook. John went through every page and updated or corrected the first edition. Most of those changes were incorporated into the second and third editions. Most important, there have been a number of students who have helped me in a variety of ways. Many graduate students, including Lindsey Fausett and Stephanie Fratto, were of great assistance in gathering various research materials for this textbook. Shiho Yamamoto, another graduate student, was also of invaluable assistance. She conducted much of the early research and was always there to assist in any manner. Finally, the many students who used this textbook in classes across the nation have contributed to its content with suggestions, questions, and comments.

**Cliff Roberson**

# BRIEF CONTENTS

<b>Chapter 1</b>	<b>Introduction and History of Victimology</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Chapter 2</b>	<b>Measurement of Crime and Its Effects</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Chapter 3</b>	<b>The Consequences of Victimization</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Chapter 4</b>	<b>Empowering Victims</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Chapter 5</b>	<b>Homicide Victims</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Chapter 6</b>	<b>Females As Victims</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>Chapter 7</b>	<b>Intimate Partner Abuse</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>Chapter 8</b>	<b>Child Victims</b>	<b>133</b>
<b>Chapter 9</b>	<b>Elder Victims</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>Chapter 10</b>	<b>Hate Crimes</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Chapter 11</b>	<b>Special Victim Populations</b>	<b>186</b>
<b>Chapter 12</b>	<b>An Overview of the Criminal Justice System</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Chapter 13</b>	<b>Civil Court Proceedings and Victims</b>	<b>229</b>
<b>Chapter 14</b>	<b>Negligence and Intentional Torts</b>	<b>243</b>
<b>Chapter 15</b>	<b>Constitutional and Civil Rights of Victims</b>	<b>256</b>
<b>Chapter 16</b>	<b>Compensation and Restitution of Victims</b>	<b>273</b>
<b>Chapter 17</b>	<b>Victim Impact Statements</b>	<b>287</b>
<b>Chapter 18</b>	<b>International Aspects of Victimology</b>	<b>301</b>
<b>Epilogue</b>	<b>Broad Themes</b>	<b>328</b>
<b>Appendix</b>	<b>Critical Dates in the Victims' Rights Movement Victimology-Related Web Sites</b>	<b>332</b>



# CONTENTS

Preface xix

## **Chapter 1 Introduction and History of Victimology 1**

Introduction 2

*Victim Defined* 3

The Development of Laws 4

*The Code of Hammurabi* 5

*Other Early Codes and Laws* 5

*Modern Codes and Laws* 6

Social Forces 7

*The Feminist Movement* 7

*Development of Civil Rights Laws* 8

*Conservatism Regarding Crime* 9

Victimology Theories 9

*Mendelsohn's Theory of Victimization* 9

*Von Hentig's Theory of Victimization* 10

*Schafer's Functional Responsibility* 11

*Wolfgang's Study of Homicide* 11

*Karmen's Theory of Victimology* 12

Other Theories of Crime, Victimology, and Victimization 12

*Lifestyle Theory* 12

*Routine Activities Approach* 12

*The Opportunity Model of Victimization* 13

*Critical Victimology* 13

*Victim Blaming* 13

*Victim's Contribution to the Crime* 15

The Rise of the Victims' Rights Movement 15

*The Beginning of the Movement* 15

*Gains and Losses* 16

*Increased Public Awareness* 16

*Increased Professionalism* 17

*Additional Laws* 18

## **Chapter 2 Measurement of Crime and Its Effects 23**

Official Reports 24

*Uniform Crime Reports* 24

*National Incident-Based Reporting System* 26

*National Crime Victimization Survey* 27

*A Comparison of the Uniform Crime Reports and the National Crime Victimization Survey* 28

<i>National Assessment Program</i>	29
<i>Criticism of NCVS</i>	30
Other Reports	31
<i>National Family Violence Surveys</i>	31
<i>Self-Reports of Crime</i>	32
<i>Other Sources of Data on Violence</i>	32
<i>Other Types of Crime Research</i>	33

### **Chapter 3 The Consequences of Victimization 37**

Physical Consequences	38
<i>Types of Injuries</i>	38
<i>Medical Aspects</i>	40
Mental Consequences	42
<i>Crisis</i>	42
<i>Acute Stress Disorder</i>	43
<i>Posttraumatic Stress Disorder</i>	44
<i>Long-Term Crisis Reaction</i>	44
<i>Other Mental Disorders</i>	45
<i>Other Effects</i>	45
<i>Traumatic Incident Stress</i>	45
Negative Social Consequences	47
Financial Consequences	47
<i>Introduction</i>	47
<i>Tangible Losses</i>	49
<i>Intangible Losses</i>	50
Costs of Fraud Crimes	50
<i>Distress Situation Fraud</i>	50
<i>White-Collar Crime</i>	51
<i>Organized Crime</i>	52
<i>Identity Theft</i>	52

### **Chapter 4 Empowering Victims 57**

Introduction	58
Media	58
<i>Relations with the Media</i>	59
<i>Preparing for and Conducting the Interview</i>	63
Legislation	63
<i>The Legislative Process</i>	64
<i>Advocacy</i>	66
Public Speaking	67
<i>Preparing for the Speech</i>	67
<i>Drafting the Speech</i>	67
<i>Some Do's and Don'ts of Public Speaking</i>	68

Fundraising	69
<i>Introduction</i>	69
<i>Types of Fundraisers</i>	69

## **Chapter 5 Homicide Victims 73**

Introduction	74
<i>Nature and Extent of the Problem</i>	74
<i>Theories, Types, and Characteristics of Homicide</i>	75
<i>Drinking, Driving, and Homicide</i>	79
Responding to Special Needs	81
<i>Family Relationships</i>	81
<i>Mental and Emotional Responses</i>	83
<i>Notification</i>	84

## **Chapter 6 Females As Victims 88**

Sexual Assault	89
<i>Definition</i>	89
<i>Theories of Sexual Violence</i>	90
<i>Rape Typologies</i>	92
<i>Extent of the Problem</i>	93
Stranger Rape	94
<i>Definitions</i>	95
<i>Legal Aspects</i>	96
<i>Victim Selection</i>	96
Acquaintance Rape	97
<i>Introduction</i>	97
<i>Definition</i>	99
Marital Rape	100
<i>Historical Perspective</i>	100
<i>Factors Contributing to Marital Rape</i>	101
Stalking	102
Sexual Harassment	104
<i>Introduction</i>	104
<i>Definitions</i>	105

## **Chapter 7 Intimate Partner Abuse 112**

Introduction to Intimate Partner Abuse	113
<i>Definition</i>	114
<i>Extent of the Problem</i>	115
<i>Dynamics of Battering</i>	116
Theories on Intimate Partner Abuse	118
<i>Social Stress</i>	118
<i>Power</i>	119
<i>Dependency</i>	119
<i>Alcohol</i>	120

*Pregnancy 121*

*Marriage 121*

The Criminal Justice Response to Intimate  
Partner Abuse 122

*Introduction 122*

*Factors Affecting Police Response 123*

*Arrest of Abusers 125*

*The Minneapolis Domestic Violence*

*Experiment 125*

*Other Replications 126*

## **Chapter 8 Child Victims 133**

Types of Child Abuse 134

*Physical Child Abuse 134*

*Child Neglect 135*

*Child Sexual Abuse 135*

Extent of the Problem 137

*Physical Child Abuse 137*

*Child Neglect 139*

*Child Sexual Abuse 139*

*Child Fatality Review Teams 140*

Intergenerational Transmission of Violence 140

*Definitions 141*

*Intergenerational Transmission of Violence and  
Family Violence 141*

*Intergenerational Transmission of Violence and  
Aggression 142*

Other Theories Regarding Child Abuse 143

*Theories of Physical Child Abuse 143*

*Theories of Child Neglect 144*

*Theories of Child Sexual Abuse 145*

Special Types of Child Abuse 148

*Sibling Abuse 148*

*Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy 149*

*Ritual Abuse 150*

## **Chapter 9 Elder Victims 157**

Elder Abuse 158

*Extent of the Problem 158*

*Definition 159*

Theories of Elder Abuse 161

*Intergenerational Transmission of Violence  
Theory 161*

*Psychopathology 161*

<i>Social Exchange Theory</i>	161
<i>Family Stress Theory</i>	162
<i>Neutralization Theory</i>	162
Elder Victimization	164
<i>Sexual Assault</i>	164
<i>Other Violent Crimes</i>	164
<i>Fraud</i>	165
<i>Burglary</i>	165
Combating Elder Abuse in the Future	165

## **Chapter 10    Hate Crimes    170**

Hate Crimes	171
<i>Introduction</i>	171
<i>Legal Aspects of Hate Crimes</i>	173
<i>Identifying Bias Crimes</i>	174
<i>Typology of Offenders</i>	176
<i>Hate Crime Legislation</i>	178
Cultural Awareness	179
<i>Introduction</i>	179
<i>Cultural Awareness Training</i>	180
Cultural Awareness Case Study	182

## **Chapter 11    Special Victim Populations    186**

HIV/AIDS Victims	187
<i>Medical and Psychological Aspects of HIV/AIDS</i>	187
<i>Victim Services Issues</i>	189
<i>Specific Victim Populations</i>	190
Victims with Disabilities	192
<i>Introduction</i>	192
<i>Legal Issues</i>	193
<i>Types of Victimization</i>	194
<i>Emerging Issues</i>	194
Gay and Lesbian Victims	196
<i>History</i>	196
<i>Definitions</i>	196
<i>Gays and Lesbians as Victims of Crime</i>	196
<i>Intimate Violence</i>	197
<i>Extent of the Problem</i>	198
<i>Legal Aspects of Gay and Lesbian Abuse</i>	199
Prisoners as Victims	201
Violence in the Schools: From Bullying to Homicide	202
<i>Introduction</i>	202
<i>Causation and Theories</i>	202
<i>Bullying</i>	203

<i>Fighting</i>	204
<i>Gangs</i>	204
<i>Sexual Assault</i>	205
<i>Homicide in Schools</i>	205

## **Chapter 12 An Overview of the Criminal Justice System 210**

The Criminal Court System	211
<i>Introduction</i>	211
<i>State Court System</i>	212
<i>Federal Court System</i>	214
<i>Juvenile Court System</i>	214
The Parties	216
<i>The Victim</i>	216
<i>The Perpetrator</i>	217
<i>Law Enforcement</i>	217
<i>The Prosecutor</i>	217
<i>The Defense Attorney</i>	218
<i>The Courts</i>	219
<i>The Correctional System</i>	219
Criminal Justice Procedures	220
<i>Outline of Trial Procedure</i>	220
<i>Pretrial Activities</i>	221
<i>The First Appearance</i>	222
<i>Preliminary Hearing or Grand Jury Hearing</i>	222
<i>Arraignment</i>	223
<i>Jury Selection</i>	223
<i>Opening Statement</i>	224
<i>Case-in-Chief</i>	224
<i>The Defendant's Evidence</i>	224
<i>Closing Argument</i>	225
<i>Deliberation and Verdict</i>	225
<i>Sentencing</i>	225

## **Chapter 13 Civil Court Proceedings and Victims 229**

Civil Procedures	230
<i>Introduction</i>	230
<i>Jurisdiction</i>	230
<i>Filing a Complaint</i>	231
<i>Filing a Response</i>	233
<i>Pretrial Activities</i>	234
<i>Trial</i>	235
<i>Verdict</i>	235
<i>Judgment</i>	236
Juvenile Court Dependency Procedures	236
<i>Detention Hearing</i>	236
<i>Adjudicatory or Jurisdictional Hearing</i>	236



*The Dispositional Hearing* 237

Restorative Justice 238

*Introduction* 238

*Function of a Restorative Justice*

*Program* 239

*Victim–Offender Mediation* 239

## **Chapter 14 Negligence and Intentional Torts 243**

Introduction 244

Negligence 246

*Introduction* 246

*Elements of Negligence* 246

Wrongful Death 247

*The Parties* 247

*Elements of Damage* 248

Assault and Battery 248

*Defined* 248

*Fear Versus Contact* 248

False Imprisonment 249

*Defined* 249

*The Confinement Requirement* 249

Mental Distress 250

*Intent Requirement* 250

*Conduct Requirement* 250

Defenses to Intentional Torts 250

*Self-Defense* 251

*Defense of Others* 251

*Defense of Property* 251

*Consent* 252

*Necessity* 253

*Authority of Law* 253

## **Chapter 15 Constitutional and Civil Rights of Victims 256**

Section 1983 Actions 257

*Introduction* 257

*Requirement of State Action* 258

*Scope of Liability* 258

1983 Theories of Liability 259

*Denial of Equal Protection* 260

*Failure to Act* 261

Violence Against Women Act 262

*Background* 262

*Gender-Based Civil Rights* 263

Injunctions	264
<i>Background and Use of Restraining Orders</i>	266
<i>Advantages and Disadvantages</i>	267
Defenses	268
<i>Absolute Immunity</i>	269
<i>Qualified Immunity</i>	270

## **Chapter 16 Compensation and Restitution of Victims 273**

Compensation	274
<i>Introduction</i>	274
<i>Program Operation</i>	275
<i>Eligibility</i>	276
<i>Benefits</i>	277
Restitution	279
<i>Introduction</i>	279
<i>History</i>	279
<i>Types of Restitution</i>	281
<i>Problems with Restitution</i>	282
<i>Methods of Collecting Restitution</i>	283

## **Chapter 17 Victim Impact Statements 287**

History of Victim Impact Statements	288
<i>Purpose</i>	288
<i>Constitutional Issues</i>	288
Use of Victim Impact Statements	292
<i>Law Enforcement</i>	292
<i>Prosecutors</i>	293
<i>Judiciary</i>	294
Effect of Victim Impact Statements	295
<i>Victim Satisfaction</i>	295
<i>Sentencing</i>	296
Victim Impact Panels	297
<i>Introduction</i>	297
<i>Procedure</i>	297

## **Chapter 18 International Aspects of Victimology 301**

Introduction	302
History and Leaders in the Field	302
Crime Victim Surveys	303
Globalization of Crime and Victims	305
The United Nations	307
<i>Introduction</i>	307
<i>Victims and the United Nations</i>	308

*U.N. Guide for Policymakers on the Implementation of the  
Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime  
and Abuse of Power* 309

*U.N. Handbook on Justice for Victims* 309

*The International Court of Justice* 309

The International Criminal Court 310

International Victimization 310

*Trafficking* 310

*Parental Child Abductions* 313

*Abuse of Power* 315

*Victims of Torture* 316

*Children as Soldiers* 318

War, Natural Disasters, and Other Acts of God 321

## **Epilogue Broad Themes 328**

Lack of Research 328

The Continued Change from a Movement to a Discipline 328

Broadening Horizons to Embrace International Victimology 329

Professionalism in Victimology and Victim Services 329

## **Appendix Critical Dates in the Victims' Rights Movement Victimology-Related Web Sites 332**

*Index* 346