



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

AMERICA

Second Edition



GEORGE F. COLE
CHRISTOPHER E. SMITH



Criminal Justice in America

SECOND EDITION

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UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



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Preface

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN AMERICA, Second Edition, is designed to serve those instructors who want a textbook that introduces students to the dynamics of the American system of criminal justice without overwhelming them.

This need was brought to our attention by faculty who reviewed the proposal, those who participated in a focus group at meetings of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and the enthusiastic comments of those who used the first edition. Faculty told us that they wanted a briefer introductory book than was currently available. Instructors told us that they were unable to cover all of the material presented in the major texts, that they wanted to be able to supplement a core text with other readings, and that they wanted a book that was user friendly to them and to their students.

Criminal Justice in America is an offspring of *The American System of Criminal Justice*, now in its eighth edition. However, it has not been created by merely dropping chapters, combining others, and limiting the graphic elements in order to reduce the page count. *Criminal Justice in America* relies on the research and conceptual framework of the larger text, but the material has been rewritten in a style that is descriptive and informative but not overly theoretical. Additional study and review aids have been incorporated to address the needs of students. Throughout the book examples from today's headlines are used to link the concepts and information to real-life criminal justice situations. Our goal has been to make this edition more current, vital, cohesive, and appealing to students and instructors alike.

THE APPROACH OF THIS TEXT: TWIN THEMES

Two key assumptions about the nature of criminal justice as a discipline and the way the introductory course should be taught run throughout the book:

- *Criminal justice involves public policies* that are developed within the political framework of the democratic process.
- *The concept of social system is an essential tool* for explaining and analyzing the way criminal justice is administered and practiced.

This book's approach might be characterized as the dominant paradigm in criminal justice education. Criminal justice is interdisciplinary, with criminology, sociology, law, history, psychology, and political science contributing to the field. The twin themes of public policy and social system help to place the research contributions of these disciplines in a context that allows students to better understand the dynamics of criminal justice. The themes are introduced in Chapters 1 and 2 and reiterated in the chapters that follow.

The *role of public policy* in criminal justice is developed through examples and explicit discussions throughout the text. For example, we examine policies such as “three strikes and you’re out,” assistance to crime victims, community policing, and the death penalty for both their content and their potential impact on the system. Throughout the book students are reminded that the definition of behaviors as criminal, the funding of criminal justice operations, and the election of judges and prosecutors result from decisions that are politically influenced.

The *system perspective* is also carried through the book as a concept that is useful in analyzing criminal justice operations. It is reinforced graphically with illustrations that remind students of exchange relationships, the flow of decision making, and the way the criminal justice system is itself embedded in a larger governmental and societal context.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SECOND EDITION

This edition has been revised in both content and presentation. Users of the first edition will find significant changes in the order of several chapters and further streamlining of the entire book. The organization of each chapter has also been reexamined and improved.

In addition to these structural changes, the content, research sources, examples, and emphasis have been updated in every chapter. The text has been rewritten to make descriptions succinct and clear and chapters and sections cohesive. The text’s special features help the student see the significance of important issues and the context in which they occur. The book is also now more accessible to students at all levels. The use of full color clarifies and enhances the many graphs, photos, and illustrations, bringing to life the discussion of the rapidly changing aspects of criminal justice today. We hope that these changes make this second edition even more usable and “teachable” than its predecessor. Let’s look more closely at the book’s principal features and the ways they promote content mastery and thoughtful learning.

Content Mastery: Coverage, Organization, and Study Aids

Although current users will find the basic plan of the text familiar, this edition embodies several important changes. First, we have augmented and updated our coverage of the following topics:

Crime and Justice in a Multicultural Society

Disparities in the treatment of African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and other minorities are pervasive in the criminal justice system. This issue is addressed in Chapter 1 and reexamined in succeeding chapters in discussions of what minority-group members experience when they come in contact with the police, the courts, and corrections. The complex issue of attributing criminality to race is carefully examined.

Crime Control Policy

Recent years have seen a major shift to a greater emphasis on crime control. Legislatures have toughened sentences, enacted “three strikes” provisions, increased the number of police officers, and reduced funding for rehabilitative programs. We examine this shift in light of the decrease in crime rates now being documented. These policy issues are presented so as to encourage students to consider the policy the United States should adopt.

Improved Coverage of Policing

Major changes are occurring in American policing as the law enforcement–crime fighter emphasis of past years is supplemented by a focus on community policing and problem solving. Part Two (Chapters 4, 5, and 6) has been reoriented to illustrate this shift in police operations, and the most up-to-date research has been incorporated into the text. Problems affecting the police—stress, excessive use of force, and corruption—are explored more deeply than in the first edition.

Study and Review Aids

To help students identify and master core concepts, the text provides several study and review aids:

- *Chapter Outlines* preview the structure of each chapter.
- *Opening Vignettes* introduce the chapter topic with a high-interest, real-life episode.
- *Questions for Inquiry* highlight the chapter's key topics and themes.
- *Checkpoints* throughout each chapter allow students to test themselves on content.
- *Chapter Summaries* and *Questions for Review* reinforce key concepts and provide further checks on learning.
- *Key Terms* are defined throughout the text in the margins of each chapter and can also be located in the Glossary.
- *Key Cases* explain major issues decided by the courts.

Enhanced Graphics

For this edition, outstanding graphic art and photo research have helped to develop an impressive array of full-color illustrations that add interest and convey information. Quantitative data are illuminated by conversion into bar graphs, pie charts, and other graphic forms; written summaries guide comprehension of the graphic presentations. Special care has been taken to place photographs and their captions so that the images are linked to the message of the text.

Promoting Critical Understanding

Aided by the features just described, a diligent student can master the essential content of the introductory course. While such mastery is no small achievement, most of us aim higher: we want our students, whether future criminal justice professionals or simply citizens, to complete this course able to take a more thoughtful and critical approach to issues of crime and justice than they did at the start of the course. The second edition provides several features that help students learn *how to think* about the field.

Close-ups and Other Real-Life Examples

Understanding criminal justice in a purely theoretical way is not enough. Helping students gain a balanced understanding, the wealth of examples in this book shows how theory plays out in practice and what the human implications of policies and procedures are. In addition to the many examples in the text, the *Close-up* features in each chapter draw from newspapers, court decisions, first-person accounts, and other current sources.

A Question of Ethics

Criminal justice requires that decisions be made within the framework of law but also that they are consistent with the ethical norms of American society. In each chapter *A Question of Ethics* scenario places students in the role of decision makers faced with a realistic ethical dilemma.

Ideas in Practice

Through the real-life examples provided in *Ideas in Practice* students apply important ideas discussed in the chapter to actual criminal justice practice. By thinking about and discussing the issues presented, students gain a greater appreciation of the challenges that criminal justice professionals face.

A Journey Inside the Criminal Justice System and Beyond

Many students of criminal justice have limited first-hand knowledge of what it is like to be “processed” by the criminal justice system. We are pleased to introduce a new feature in this edition, a serialized essay by Chuck Terry titled “A Journey Inside the Criminal Justice System and Beyond: One Man’s Journey.” Each part of the book concludes with a segment of Terry’s moving story, providing a rare “insider’s” look at the steps of the criminal justice process.

Careers in Criminal Justice

One of our goals for this edition is to help students of criminal justice make informed career decisions. We have strengthened our coverage of careers in two ways:

- Workperspectives, written by fourteen criminal justice professionals, give students an insider’s view of careers and work experiences.
- An appendix on careers in criminal justice describes the mission, agencies, and entry requirements for a range of criminal justice positions.

SUPPLEMENTS

The most extensive package of supplemental aids for a criminal justice text accompanies this edition. The following items have been developed to enhance the course and to assist instructors and students.

Instructor’s Edition

New to this book is an instructor’s edition featuring Chapter-at-a-Glance and Lecture Notes. This feature will assist instructors in organizing their classroom

presentations and reinforcing the themes of the course. Each chapter ties all of the supplements and instructor's notes directly to the topics in the text.

Instructor's Resource Manual and Computerized Test Bank

A full-fledged *Instructor's Resource Manual* has been developed by Christopher Smith. The manual includes resource lists, lecture outlines, and testing suggestions that will help time-pressed teachers more effectively communicate with their students and also strengthen coverage of course material. Each chapter has multiple-choice and true/false test items, as well as sample essay questions. The *Instructor's Resource Manual* is backed up by a computerized test bank available in Windows and Macintosh formats.

Call-In Testing

Adopters of this book are eligible for our call-in testing service. Requests received before 12:00 P.M. EST will be processed within 72 business hours. For more information on this service, please contact Tammi Potter, Call-In Testing Administrator, at 1-800-423-0563, ext. 5403 or tpotter@kdc.com.

PowerPoint Presentation Tool '99

This tool is especially designed to work with the PowerPoint Presentation '99 program. PowerPoint slides are provided for each chapter of the text for faculty to use in their lecture discussions.

Videos

We offer an extensive library of video resources:

- Films for the Humanities customized video is composed of 10- to 15-minute segments covering major criminal justice topics. Instructors may draw on a particular segment to further illustrate a lecture topic or to stimulate class discussion.
- CNN Customized Video is composed of 2- to 5-minute current news stories covering major criminal justice topics. Particular segments can be used to amplify lectures and generate discussion.
- Court-TV programs expose students to real-life courtroom situations. Choose from any of eight 1-hour programs.
- Wadsworth Criminal Justice Video Library offers an extensive selection of criminal justice videos covering contemporary topics from A&E American Justice Series, ABC News and MPI Home Video Series, and National Institute of Crime File Videos.

Crime Scenes: An Interactive Criminal Justice CD-ROM

The first introductory criminal justice CD-ROM available. This interactive presentation allows students to walk through a variety of criminal cases and play the roles

of various criminal justice practitioners, such as police officers, prosecutors, jurors, and parole board members. Six original, high-interest scenarios expose students to all major aspects of the criminal justice system. Available for both Windows and Macintosh platforms.

InfoTrac College Edition

This online research tool provides students with access to current articles from over 600 scholarly and popular publications, including magazines, journals, encyclopedias, and newsletters. Student subscribers receive personalized “account ID numbers” that give them unlimited access to InfoTrac College Edition for four full months at any hour of the day.

The Virtual Criminal Justice Classroom

Designed by the foremost criminal justice Internet expert, Professor Cecil Greek of the School of Criminology of Florida State University, the Virtual Criminal Justice Classroom is the best book-specific Web site on the Internet. Students can use this site as a launching point for research, meet other students in cyberspace to discuss criminal justice topics, and improve test scores by taking online quizzes.

The Virtual Criminal Justice Classroom includes the following features:

- Hundreds of links to other criminal justice sites. For ease of use, these links are keyed to each chapter of this text.
- A scavenger hunt to help students learn to navigate the information superhighway for criminal justice-related research. The “Hunt” contains fifty clues. All answers can be found through the links of the Virtual Classroom. The student can have fun exploring the Internet, but the hunt is not easy!
- A mailing list for students and instructors to post comments, homework suggestions, exemplary student papers, and so forth. By posting questions and answers on the Internet students can learn from one another.
- Online quizzes specific to each chapter allow students to prepare for upcoming exams.
- Online homework exercises drawn from the text allow students to submit answers to professors electronically.

Transparencies

Based on the *American System of Criminal Justice*, Eighth Edition, fifty full-color transparency masters for overhead projection bring the graphic portions of the text to the classroom. The transparencies help instructors fully discuss concepts and research findings with students.

Study Guide

An extensive student guide has been developed for this edition by Christopher Smith. Because students learn in different ways, a variety of pedagogical aids is

included in the guide to help them. Each chapter is outlined, major terms are defined, summaries and sample tests are provided.

Employment in Criminal Justice

Written by J. Scott Harr and Kären Hess of Normandale Community College, this practical book, now in its second edition, helps students develop a search strategy to find employment in criminal justice and related fields. Each chapter includes "insiders' views" written by individuals in the field and addressing such issues as promotions and career planning.

Criminal Justice Internet Investigator II

This handy brochure lists the most useful criminal justice links on the World Wide Web. It includes the most popular criminal justice sites organized by major topics, such as policing, investigations, juveniles, courts, and corrections.

Internet Guide for Criminal Justice

Developed by Daniel Kurland and Christina Polsenberg, this easy reference text helps newcomers as well as experienced Web surfers use the Internet for criminal justice research.

Mind of a Killer CD-ROM

Based on Eric Hickey's book *Serial Murderers and Their Victims*, this award-winning CD-ROM offers viewers a look at the terrifying psyches of the world's notorious killers. The student can view confessions of and interviews with serial killers and examine famous cases through original video documentaries and news footage. Included are 3-D profiling simulations, extensive mapping systems that seek to find out what motivates these killers.

Your Research: Data Analysis for Criminal Justice and Criminology

Written by criminal justice experts Michael Blankenship and Gennaro Vito, this book, in its second edition, is an easy-to-use data analysis and graphics program with an accompanying workbook replete with examples of criminological research projects. Software available for DOS.

A GROUP EFFORT

It is not possible to be expert about every aspect of the criminal justice system. Authors need help in covering new developments and ensuring that research findings are correctly interpreted. This revision has greatly benefited from the advice

of three sets of scholars. One group of almost 2,500 participated in a national survey designed to reveal to us more about the way the introductory course is taught and the type of text that instructors and students want. A second group of criminal justice scholars was asked to comment on the entire manuscript, especially its organization and pedagogical usefulness. These reviewers were chosen from the wide range of colleges and universities throughout the country that have used previous editions, so their comments concerning presentation, levels of student abilities, and the requirements of introductory courses at their institutions were especially useful. Reviewers in the third group we consulted are nationally recognized experts in the field; they focused their attention on the areas in which they specialize. Their many comments helped us avoid errors and drew our attention to points in the literature that had been neglected.

The many criminal justice students and instructors who used the first edition also contributed abundantly to this edition. Several hundred readers returned the questionnaire included in that edition. Their comments provided crucial practical feedback. Others gave us their comments personally when we lectured in criminal justice classes around the country.

We have also been assisted in writing this edition by a diverse group of associates. Chief among them was our editor, Sabra Horne, who was supportive of our efforts and kept us on our course. The help of developmental editor Dan Alpert was extremely valuable as we revised the book. The project has benefited much from the attention of Deborah Kramer, project manager. Our talented designer, Norman Baugher, designed the interior of the book. Claire Masson was invaluable in helping us develop the supplemental aids. Ultimately, however, the full responsibility for the book is ours alone.

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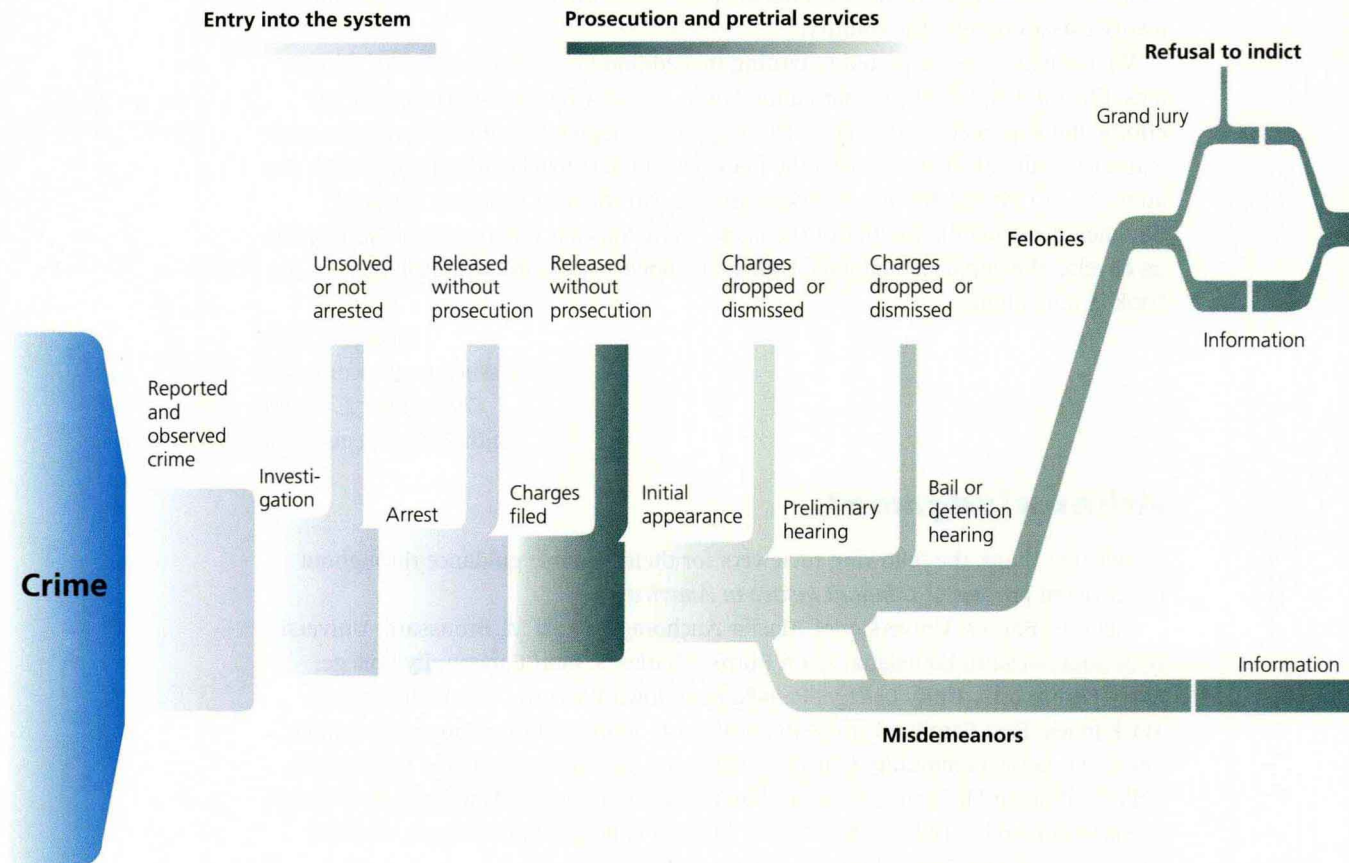
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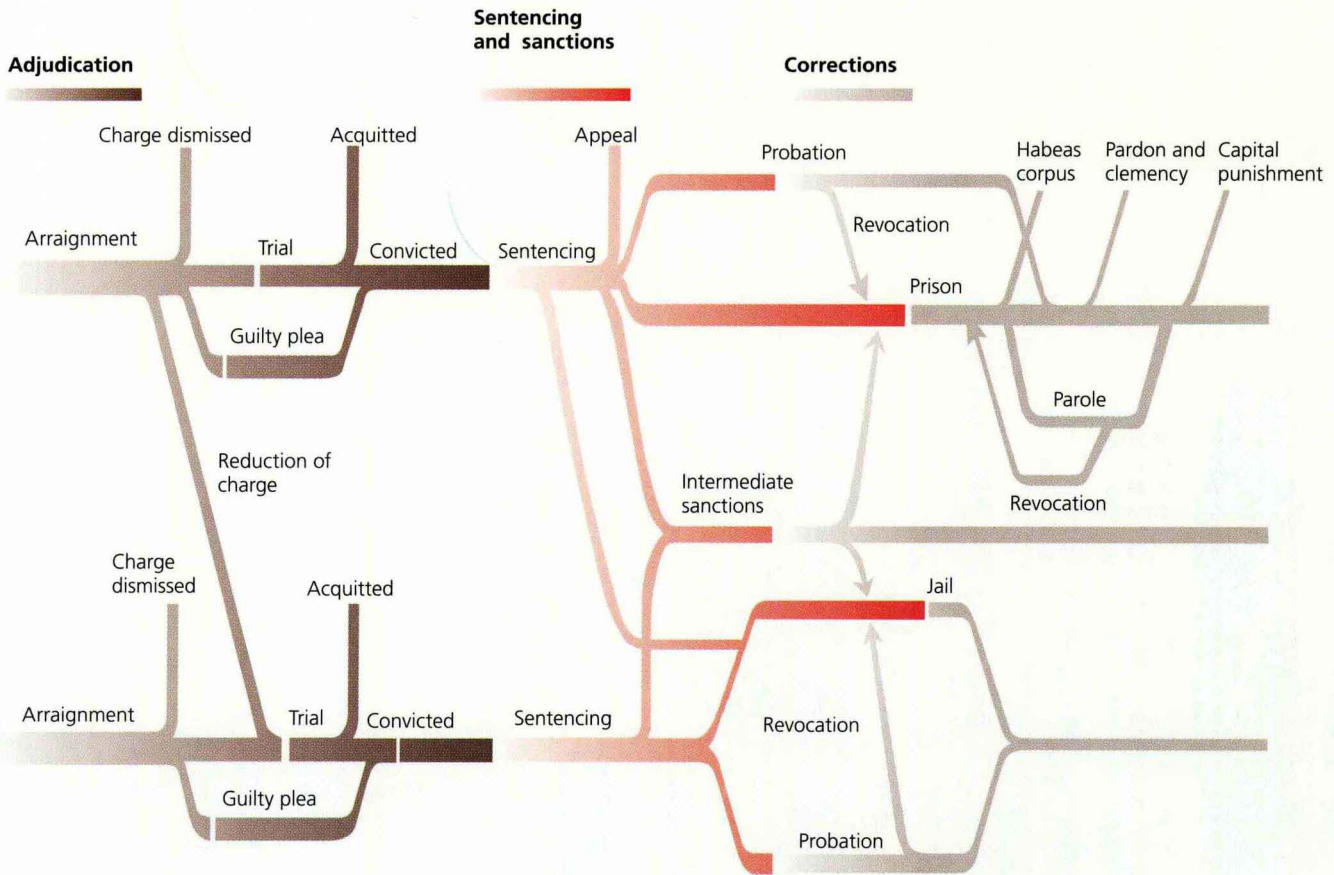
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What is the sequence of events in the criminal justice system?

This flowchart provides an overview of the criminal justice system as it will be described in this book. It is important to recognize that the system portrayed here is a social system. Each event depicted represents a complex interaction of people, politics, and procedures.



Originally published by the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice in 1967, the flowchart was revised in 1997 by the Bureau of Justice Statistics.



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