

# The Critical Criminologist

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## ***From the Chair***

Hello Crit Crim!

I hope you all enjoy this edition of The Critical Criminologist. I would like to thank the editors and authors who worked on this issue to honor the work of our friend, colleague, and mentor Stanley Cohen. Dr. Cohen's work has inspired and guided so many of us, and I hope this issue can, in some small way, help us to celebrate his many contributions. The Awards Committee has also been working tirelessly to develop the new Praxis Award. You will find the description in this issue, and I hope you will all consider nominating!

I am looking forward to seeing you all in November. We have some small changes to meeting days and times: Executive Committee will meet on Thursday at 3:30pm, the General Business meeting will be at 4:30pm on Thursday, and the Social will start at 6:00pm on Thursday. We also have numerous sessions of interest this year, including several Presidential Plenaries. As we move closer to November we will send a condensed list of these events to make planning easier for the membership. Until then, enjoy your summer!

Regards,  
Donna Selman

## ***From the Editors***

Dear Fellow Critical Criminologists,

Thank you for your patience in regards to waiting for this issue, which includes a special symposium dedicated to the work and life of Stanley Cohen. We sincerely believe it is worth the wait, as we have received two thoughtful contributions. The first piece, written by Albert Novelozo, reflects on Stan's legacy vis-à-vis a reflexive account of Cohen's essay, "The Last Seminar" (see <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-954X.1979.tb00322.x/abstract>).

Through it, Novelozo asks us to dwell on how we might critically respond to current events in light of Cohen's analytic insights. The second essay, written by Vanessa McDermott, provides one response by critically considering how we might employ constructivist and Weberian notions of legitimacy to query the contingent features of power in and around moral panics. Taken together, these essays offer a really engaging and thought-provoking tribute to Cohen's contributions. They encourage us to not simply apply Cohen's ideas, but to instead continue his legacies through an extended critical engagement with the worlds we occupy.

Warm regards,  
Emily and Kate  
Co-Editors, *The Critical Criminologist*



## ***Critical Issue: Reflections on Stan Cohen and his Legacy***

### **The Last Seminar: “Their” Story**

by **Albert Novelozo**

#### **Introductory Note**

Readers of this newsletter will no doubt take the following narrative to be a work of fiction, a ‘short story’. In fact, the text is a true account as told to me by Professor Bridges and his close friend, Derek Meehan, two radical intellectuals who may be well known to readers of *The Critical Criminologist*. Space limitation forces me to edit the conversation, but a complete manuscript can be made available upon request.

## The First Seminar

“By the time they noticed us the takeover was already happening,” Jeff said as Derek took a drink. “These *scholars* were trying to tell us about shit they didn’t know anything about: never done time; never met a G; never been to ‘the third world.’ Shit, these fools never even been hungry but were the experts on poverty! Do you understand what I’m saying?”

I did. I first met Professor Bridges when I took his class, “Epistemology and Social Science,” so I had spent an entire semester learning what he was saying. Regardless, “The First Seminar” was his favorite story to tell, especially after a few brews.

The first time I heard Jeff and Derek refer to each other as “lumpenpolitical prisoners” I realized that they didn’t meet in the Army — although they like to tell academics that they did. They actually met in prison. From what they have shared with me, I think Jeff was incarcerated for firebombing a military recruiting station and Derek for sabotaging cruisers in a police yard.

They pride themselves on being representatives of different ‘hoods of the same Neighborhood. In other words, they grew up in geographically different places that are structurally similar. As a youth, Jeff was active in the 1960s anti-war movement and continues to be an adamant supporter of radical politics. Derek is more tight-lipped about his activism, but I know his “FTP” tattoo doesn’t (only) mean “For The People.” Jeff calls Derek “the anarchist mechanic” and occasionally jokes that people who cross him soon find their car brakes giving out on the freeway. Derek never laughs at this. Instead, he responds by telling Jeff to “go burn some papers,” usually with a supercilious grin on his face.

“By the time we got out and went back to school, the university was on its way to being ours,” Jeff recounted with excitement. “There was a lot of street kids taking classes, and second-wave feminism was really taking off. We had this Chilean homie who—I’m pretty sure—was part of the Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionaria, and, of course, we had some left-over hippies.”

He paused to reminisce. “The spirit of the age was unbelievable,” he recalled. “Of course, the number of Black and Latino students seemed to be increasing by the hour, but we knew just being on campus wasn’t enough. To know the whole story you gotta realize that we wanted power. If we were gunna be in the academy, it was because we were gunna use our own voices. It was the ideas that we articulated with those voices that terrified them. So terrifying that they ended classes a week early that year!” He exclaimed as he raised his glass. We indulged.

In the spring semester, Professor Bridges led a seminar on urban sociology. His background as an ex-con and down-to-earth reputation was already an attraction to many students, and once word got around that every spring he found a reason to end the class a week early his classes filled quickly. On the first day, Jeff would introduce Derek as a visiting scholar, so “Professor” Meehan pretty much co-taught the course with him.

I would not have doubted this had they never invited me to the pub to enquire about my “personal problems” after giving me an extension for a midterm assignment. Then, I told that my real “personal problem” was the frustration I was experiencing as a result of the elitism, the racism and the outright disrespect that the director of my honors program expressed toward me. She constantly dismissed my critical questions as inappropriate and called my political

commitments sentimental. In fact, when I informed her of my admission to graduate school, she warned, “Graduate school isn’t for everybody.” This, in addition to a year’s worth of micro-aggressions, prompted me to consider dropping the program and reconsider my aspirations to become a professor. I didn’t think – and continue to wonder if – academia is for people like me.

They encouraged me to finish out the program and to continue to pursue my academic aspirations because, to use Jeff’s words, “the professor wants you to leave. But sometimes, they’ll lose it before we do.”

Derek explained this statement by picking up the story: “We knew we were doing something right when [Professor] Radzinowicz lost it that year.”

“Wrong side of the pond,” Jeff corrected him, reminding Derek that he was confusing the events and characters involved.

“Whatever,” Derek responded. “I don’t remember the guy’s name, but the point is that he represented the past, just like Leon.” He noticed my facial expression change as my curiosity about the reference piqued and went on. “It’s not my story to tell, but while we were in the *Army*,” he said to me and winked at Jeff. “Some friends of ours subverted a British criminology conference with their National Deviancy Conference, which didn’t sit well with this old Sir. I’m sure you’ll hear about it soon.”

Jeff nodded in agreement.

Derek continued, “Anyways, we took this guy’s history of prisons course. He was used to saying strange crap about crime and prisons, so he didn’t like that we, two ex-cons, were in his class calling him out on his bullshit. When people like us get to the university and offer our own theories they can’t stand it!”

He raised his voice and looked around the campus pub, trying to provoke a reaction. “Our subversive ideologies were too much for this one professor, and he lost it on the last day.”

Jeff interjected, “He turned straight loony!”

“A friend of ours saw him in the bathroom,” Derek explained, “and the guy ran out screaming for him to not grab his cock. In class, he kept jumping like there was gunshots going off. And, although he had never before noticed Maraceli, a Chicana in the class, he kept staring at her. I mean staring. She had her kids with her, but he was looking at her like she was breastfeeding in class! You don’t understand,” he emphasized, “this guy was problematic all the way around: racist, elitist, sexist, homophobic. So, when he lost his mind, he couldn’t hide it anymore.”

Derek paused and took another gulp of his drink. “Before running out of the seminar, this professor tried to save the only white boy in the class who didn’t call him out the whole semester — some stoner who didn’t care about anything. He asked the kid, ‘Can’t you see that something a little *odd* is happening?’” As Derek recounted this, he mocked the professor with exaggerated animation. “Hell yeah, something odd was going down!”

We all laughed, as Derek went on: “Before taking off he yelled at the stoner, ‘You’d better get out of here! The whole place is going to blow up or something!’” Our laughter grew louder. “We followed the guy to see what he would do next!”

At that point, our server had arrived with another round of drinks. Jeff handed them to us, and Derek let him pick up the story — this was his favorite part. “When he got to the Social Science foyer he really got trippy! He was shoving the air out of his way with a horrified look on his face — as if the hall was filled with dying bodies and the air with the stink of ether and Dettol. Once he fought his way to the parking lot, he started crouching and swerving like in the war movies and looking back at the rooftops for snipers! A group of us ran to the sports field to watch his *escape*.”

They started laughing uncontrollably. Through the hysterics, Jeff cried, “He made eye contact with me and Derek, then stepped on the accelerator and booked it! Gone. To a total institution!!”

This was an old story of theirs, one that I had actually heard on other occasions. Yet, I was still unsure about how much of it was factual. I also knew it was a parable of some sort, but remained unclear about its moral. Realizing this would be the last time I sat with them before leaving to graduate school, I had to push the issue. “Come on,” I said once their laughter subsided, “I’m sure there was some crazy shit going on in your day, but professors having psychological breakdowns because people who they only really knew as the subjects of their work were taking classes with them, that’s a little fantastic, isn’t it?”

“How about this?” Jeff deflected my question. “Do you get to take classes at John Jay?”

“Yes,” I nodded.

“Okay, get with Jock Young and ask him....”

“Na!” Derek interrupted. “Ask Jock to introduce you to his homie, Stan Cohen. Ask Stan about the professor he interviewed in 1978. Let us know what he says. And tell him we miss him.” Regrettably, I never had the opportunity to meet Professor Cohen. I have read,

The work of Stan Cohen over four decades has thus come to acquire a classical status in the fields of criminology, sociology and human rights. His writing, research, teaching and practical engagement in these fields have been at once rigorously analytical and intellectually inspiring. (Downes et al., 2007)

As I further acquaint myself with Professor Cohen’s work, I find it easy to agree with Downes and colleagues’ introduction, but find myself wondering if his stature obscures some of the lessons he left us. He was without a doubt a genius scholar, and his commitment to the pursuit of social justice through the use of many analytical strategies makes him an inspirational writer.

Much has been written, with warranted appreciation, about his prominent work, *Folk Devils and Moral Panics: The Creation of Mods and Rockers* and *States of Denial: Knowing About Atrocities and Suffering*. But, when I approached Jock Young, he said to me that we limit ourselves when we assume that those books make up the broad genius that Professor Cohen left us. This, as well as other mentors’ recommendations that we contemplate how to re-work or

employ the warnings and analytical tools Cohen gave us inspires me to explore his work that, for some, remains obscure.

In “The Last Seminar”, Cohen critiques the research gaze. Howard Becker’s interpretation of the essay suggests that it “raised a number of questions about our research practice and experience, and forces us to reconsider (perhaps not always in the direction its author intended) some general problems in social research” (2007: 29). In the piece, Cohen makes it clear that this is certainly one layer of his message. For example, during the morning seminar, Derek Meehan reverses the research gaze with his “supercilious grin” (Cohen, 1979: 8). As with most of Cohen’s work, the issue he raises in “The Last Seminar” certainly remains relevant today.

Yet, I wonder if he was not expressing another, subtly concealed lesson. By the 1970s scholars were already interrogating the researcher-“subject” relationship. The research gaze had lost its innocence, and challenges took aim at its one-sidedness. Cohen’s scholarship was ahead of his contemporaries, and it earned him a reputation as being something of an outsider. As he was a forerunner, I find it hard to believe that a methodological issue of a pompous social science was the (only) point Cohen was making. If we consider other aspects of Cohen’s identity, we uncover other possible dimensions of “The Last Seminar.”

In a forthcoming essay in *Crime, Media, Culture*, Jock Young reflects on his and Cohen’s early work and friendship. He recalls how, in their mid-twenties, they did not choose the subjects of their PhD studies according to (supposed) objective social science standards. Instead, they focused their research on the youth cultures that they were a part of. The excitement of their lives “was not just in the streets, but had begun to penetrate the stalwart dullness of the academy itself” (Young, in press). That is, their work represents the Jeff Bridges and Derek Meehans of their era. Cohen was central to an intellectual revolution and signaled to the academy’s old guard that they represented the past. In doing so, he was also pivotal in highlighting that what they considered more marginal work would represent the future of many research fields.

In turn, I wonder if Cohen’s message in “The Last Seminar” is about more than the research gaze. I wonder if we confuse Cohen’s intended audience, and thus overlook his deeper message, when we assume that his essay was meant as a warning to academics. Perhaps, as I believe, “The Last Seminar” is an invitation to those of us who occupy society’s numerous margins to join him, as Jeff and Derek did, in his takeover of the academy.

Speaking of Jeff and Derek, when we left the bar that night (thoroughly intoxicated), I figured it was as good a time as any to be blunt with them.

I asked rather abruptly, “So what’s the point of it all?”

Knowing exactly what I was skeptical about, Jeff responded without hesitation, “‘Scum’ like us rolling into their university isn’t really the main issue. Sure, most of them thought we were here for revenge,” he chuckled, “or to guilt trip them into fixing all the crap they say about us. But, we ain’t interested in bettering their *science*. We know it’s shit. We’re here to flip the script completely — to turn the tables and interrogate the fundamentals of their knowledge claims. Our takeover is about using our own marginality as an instrument for challenging the various mainstreams we encounter in the academy.”

I paused for a second, as I always leave feeling motivated when I hang out with my mentors. This evening was no different.

Jeff concluded, “It was a political-cultural-epistemological-intellectual-human revolution, Albert. We hope that your generation, having inherited this unanticipated contemporary moment, will have the courage to reignite our dying rebellion. We hope you and your contemporaries will have your own first seminar.”

“I definitely hope so,” I responded. “For now, I can only aspire to follow in the footsteps of those who came before me. I’ll know I did something right when I look back on my own work and am able to say I inspired a new generation of critical scholars from marginal places, like us.”

Jeff seemed content before he departed.

With that in mind, it seems that Becker is right, at least to a certain extent, when he says, “‘The Last Seminar’ gives us details that prompt a serious reconsideration of our relations with people we study” (2007: 35). But, as with all of Cohen’s work, it also prompts us to do so much more.

As I reflect on what it might mean to accept Cohen’s invitation to the academy, especially if I hope to invite others to join me, I find myself wondering how he might expect me to engage in the necessary intellectual rigor to capture and address our particular contemporary challenges. Racism, sexism and conservatism have long been problems within and beyond the academy, but its recent neoliberalization presents us with new ones.

In recent years, the increasing financial costs of attending a university (which have made it impossible for many people at the margins to enroll) are part of broader trends that have yielded an acceleration of the inequality on which the global system is based. In the Global North, formerly accessible luxuries move increasingly out of reach, creating, for some, desperation to forcibly secure and retain what they still have. Rebellions against oppression and struggles for freedom have been put down with little, if any, meaningful attention from the mainstream.

“The Last Seminar” was written within an era on the cusp of radical change. Our contemporary moment is one of retrenchment, but it presents us with the conditions ripe for critical analysis and social reform. Making use of this moment, however, requires us to not simply continue longstanding struggles, but, rather, to also reconsider the ways we come to know the worlds we occupy and the peoples we encounter so that the notions of social justice we produce can be more inclusive and far-reaching.

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## **Adding Legitimacy to the Moral Panic Toolkit**

by **Vanessa McDermott**

The moral panic concept, and its associated “folk devils,” has become one of the most significant contributions to criminology and sociology in the twentieth century. Although first presented by Jock Young (1971), it was Stanley Cohen’s (1972) *Folk Devils and Moral Panics: The Creation of the Mods and Rockers* that brought the concept to popular attention.

As many readers of *The Critical Criminologist* likely know, the origins of moral panic theory can be traced to New Deviancy Theory in the 1960s and the intellectual context of the New Deviancy Conference (NDC) at the University of York in 1968. Young and Cohen were founding members of the NDC,<sup>1</sup> which formed at a time when:

Everything was under challenge. A radical deconstruction was in the air: this was the intellectual moment which claimed the need for decriminalization (Schur), decarceration (Goffman, Barton), deprofessionalization (Illich), de-labelling (Becker), decategorization ... It was the time to celebrate “Outsiders” (Becker), “Crimes without victims” (Schur) and “Becoming Deviant” (Matza). It was the moment of the anti-psychiatry movement of Laing, Szasz and Scheff. (Plummer, 2013)

This was also a time when studies of deviance became a central concern in sociology, as new deviancy theory, particularly subcultural theory and labeling theory, challenged “traditional” sociological perspectives. As part of a larger body of work that emerged during this period, Cohen’s ideas and research significantly altered the way that criminologists and sociologists – over time the media and in popular culture – conceptualize social phenomena.<sup>2</sup>

The popularity of the moral panic concept has also had problematic effects. According to Young (2009: 4-5), its insights can be lost due to a “tendency to pluck the concept out of its intellectual context” and apply it to a “rather listless” range of events. Other, more critical, assessments suggest that its popularity reflects its “complete lack of theoretical, definitional, and evidential integrity” (Thompson and Greek, 2012: 1). Recent calls demand a more critical moral panic theory that addresses the changing nature of modern social life, including changes to the media landscape.<sup>3</sup> Some criticisms of Cohen’s original concept have yielded theoretical innovations

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<sup>1</sup> Other founding members included Paul Rock, Kit Carson, David Downes, Ian Taylor and Mary McIntosh.

<sup>2</sup> Ben-Yehuda 2009; Innes 2005

<sup>3</sup> e.g., Critcher 2009; deYoung 1998; McRobbie 1994; McRobbie and Thornton 1995



that, while emphasizing different elements or adding to his model, have enhanced its analytical power in ways that are attuned to societal developments since Cohen's earlier writings.<sup>4</sup>

It is not my intention, however, to present another critique or comparison of the different theoretical conceptualizations of the moral panic concept.<sup>5</sup> Rather, this paper responds to a particular concern posited by Nachman Ben-Yehuda (2009: 2):

[W]hat happens to moral panics in multicultural societies where morality itself is constantly contested and negotiated? Consensus about morality in such societies is not a simple or taken-for-granted issue and, therefore, the entire issue of launching moral panics within more general processes of moral entrepreneurship, legislation, policing and regulation has had to be reconceptualized.

Here, I suggest that situating legitimacy within a moral panic framework can add to its explanatory power, because it places the focus on the “multifaceted relationships among diverse social agents, fragmented media, representation, and reality” in the social construction of a moral panic (Hier, 2008: 174). In doing so, this paper follows in the constructionist tradition, drawing on work by Eliche Goode and Ben-Yehuda as well as research on moral regulation and risk.

Cohen had pointed to the importance of analyzing risk discourses – and hinted at the role of legitimacy and moral authority – in moral panic theory. He noted that the construction of risk refers to more than assessment or management of risk but “takes a moral turn” that includes evaluations of the “character and moral integrity of the claims-makers. Do they have a right to say this? Is their expertise merely another form of moral enterprise?” (Cohen, 2002: xxv). In other words, claims of legitimacy and moral authority are essential to the construction of a moral panic, making them central elements to consider critically.

### **Legitimacy and Moral Panic Theory**

Goode and Ben-Yehuda suggest that a Weberian perspective can be applied to moral panic theory. They focus on the changing nature of foundations of authority in modern society and the “routinization of charisma” (Goode and Ben-Yehuda, 2009: 246). From this perspective, obedience stems from the charisma of particular leaders rather than traditional forms of authority, such as that inherited by birth or through bureaucracy. The “excitement” of a moral panic is similar to the charisma of leaders, which is also volatile and unstable. In this context, charismatic leaders may be more successful in transforming the initial volatile momentum, or concern, into a moral panic. Like “charismatic leaders,” Goode and Ben-Yehuda (2009: 246) state, “some moral panics are, almost unwittingly, more successful in routinizing the demands for action that are generated during these relatively brief episodes of collective excitement.”

This approach is useful in terms of sharpening the analysis of moral panics to look at whether they leave an institutional legacy to “do something” about the problematic behavior. My aim here, however, is to suggest that Weber's concept of legitimacy can enhance understandings of efforts by elite groups to maintain authority in some moral panics. Considering legitimacy is

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<sup>4</sup> e.g., Hier, 2002a; 2002b; 2003; 2008; Hier, Lett and Walby, 2011; Rohloff and Wright, 2010

<sup>5</sup> Others have accomplished this task (e.g., Critcher 2008; 2009; Hunt 1997; Thompson and Greek 2012).

useful as it analytically captures power relationships between organizations and the way these shape debates. Although privileged, elite groups cannot take for granted claims to the moral authority or legitimacy in order to ‘pull the strings.’ Rather, these groups must, at least to a certain extent, engage in consensus-making activities to generate and maintain support for an institutional response to a specific problem that is of particular concern, which is a central feature of a moral panic.<sup>6</sup> Members of the public are also not passive “puppets or marionettes” (Goode and Ben-Yehuda, 2009: 54), but filter messages, including those from the mass media, through complex social networks and knowledge frameworks. Further, the diversity of stakeholders in modern life means that there are different notions of legitimacy operating in communities.

Legitimacy is a foundational sociological concern. Max Weber (1969: 953) emphasized that the ability of any social system to maintain order reflects the “observable need of any power ... to justify itself” and that its claims to legitimacy must be perceived as valid. Accordingly, belief in the validity of such claims confirms the moral authority of claim-makers to determine appropriate attitudes and conduct for the group.

Morality is also important, as it orients social actions that mark community boundaries based on a set of social criteria, or rules, which evaluate “behavior and goals as good or bad, desirable or undesirable” (Ben-Yehuda, 1986: 495). In modern societies, explains Ben-Yehuda, moral boundaries and evaluations of behavior undergo constant processes of negotiation and renegotiation by social groups. In this context, enforcement practices, regulatory frameworks or procedural mechanisms are concerned with moral principles and justifications, questions of right and wrong, and must be open to public scrutiny to be seen as legitimate.<sup>7</sup> In other words, claims to legitimacy and moral authority cannot be taken for granted, even when manipulated by elite groups.

Even with Weber’s explanation, legitimacy emerges as a dynamic concept that is not necessarily clear or easily applied. It “appears to be relative, gradational, dynamic and ‘multi-dimensional,’” while the “bases of legitimacy may change and they may be analyzed on such ‘dimensions’ as credibility, prestige and deference and in such aspects as economic decisions, political activities, propaganda” (Pakulski, 1986: 37). Examining legitimacy in the context of a moral panic provides an opportunity to consider the ‘multi-dimensional’ character of legitimacy. This “implies that it will operate differently in different contexts, and how it works may depend on the nature of the problems for which it is the purported solution” (Suchman, 1995: 573). Similarly, as Goode and Ben-Yehuda (2009: 247) point out, moral panics do not necessarily follow formal, specific stages consisting of a “beginning, middle and a predictable end.” Rather, moral panics may produce different effects and take different forms leading to different outcomes under specific circumstances.

Placing legitimacy at the core of a moral panic analysis also addresses some criticisms of both Cohen’s original model and later adaptations (such as work by Goode and Ben-Yehuda). In particular, the subjective aspect of legitimacy highlights how dominant groups work to generate and maintain support for their claims to authority, which are contested by a range of other

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<sup>6</sup> Beamish (2009)

<sup>7</sup> Battin et al. 2008; Bok 1989

stakeholder groups. In contrast to societal control culture imposed from the top-down, authority and legitimacy must be negotiated. This also constructs the public as active participants, as legitimacy must be granted.

The inclusion of legitimacy in a moral panic model also addresses the various theorizations of the media's role in a moral panic. The British version of moral panic theory – as formulated by Stanley Cohen – is exemplified by the work of Hall, Critcher, Jefferson, Clarke and Roberts (1978) and their analysis of mugging in 1970s Britain. They argued that the law and order campaign in response to mugging (as a moral panic) “had the overwhelming single consequence of legitimating the recourse to the law, to constraint and statutory power, as the main, indeed the only, effective means left of defending hegemony” (Hall et al., 1978: 278; emphasis in original). This approach emphasizes the influential role of the media who, rather than presenting objective accounts, are “cued in” to specific news topics by those in authoritative positions (Hall et al., 1978: 57). Some moral panic theorists have criticized claims that elite groups orchestrate a moral panic as “strictly comic book fare” (Goode and Ben-Yehuda, 2009: 66), which underplays the active role of other social agents. Others have argued that such an approach fails to “account for occasions on which the media may take the initiative in challenging the so-called primary definers and forcing them to respond” (Schlesinger, 1990: 67, emphasis in original, as cited in Critcher, 2002: 529).

The media do, however, play a key role in generating, or maintaining, public concern in a moral panic, particularly on issues with which audiences have limited or no direct experience.<sup>8</sup> Media reports identify “troublemakers” using morality-focused individualized language to contrast “demon criminals” against “responsible authorities” (Ericson et al., 1991: 8-9, 239). This also reassures audiences that there are institutional solutions presented in media reports.<sup>9</sup> Identifying the deviant group and responsible agents prepared to take action to solve the problem brings even small digressions from the norm into the public eye, enabling calls for greater regulation and control. This process “normalizes” expressions of hostility towards ‘folk devils,’ stresses the importance of official agents of social control and informs audiences about the community’s moral constraints and values.<sup>10</sup>

Nevertheless, it would be a misrepresentation to generalize audiences as passive consumers. Rather, audiences are influenced by their own interests, which may not coincide with those of dominant groups.<sup>11</sup> Audiences bring their own predispositions and interpretations to reading and viewing news, which influence the meanings they attach to information and perceptions of media credibility. This is significant in terms of building legitimacy, as Rommetvedt (2005: 757) notes:

Actors who are able to show, or to argue convincingly, that their viewpoints and suggestions promote the public good have better chances of obtaining general acceptance or of acquiring support from the necessary number and kinds of partners.

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<sup>8</sup> Gonzenbach 1992

<sup>9</sup> Wagner-Pacifici 1986

<sup>10</sup> Lull and Hinerman 1997; Sanders 1990

<sup>11</sup> Goode and Ben-Yehuda, 1994b

Failure to persuade various audiences can lead to perceptions that these groups are “incompetent, impractical or illegitimate” (Throgmorton, 1991: 154). Consequently, while perhaps often supporting the claim-making activities of dominant groups, the media is a site where claims to legitimacy and moral authority are both made and contested. Thus, it is not simply a series of conduits for the discourse of elites but can play a role in directing and influencing narratives around particular social issues, driven by their own organizational needs – including legitimacy.

Legitimacy also addresses the problematic nature of Goode and Ben-Yehuda’s (2009) criteria of volatility. Including legitimacy in a moral panic analysis shifts the focus from a temporary event, a crisis, to focus on consequences over time. Moral panics build on a fear that the wellbeing and fundamental values of society are under threat from a certain category of deviant individuals. This requires that “something must be done” by those in positions of authority or power (Cohen, 2002). Similar to traditional moral panic theory, the “folk devil” continues to provide a focus for regulation and collective action; however, rather than a “panic,” the issue becomes how to regulate against ongoing forms of problematic behavior or persons rendered as problematic. This attempts to move beyond assumptions that moral panics are “exceptional rather than ordinary forms of action” (Hier, 2008: 171). Instead of a concern with the ‘origins’ or ‘tipping point’ that might be the focus of conventional moral panic analyses, the emergent issues are the “implications of volatile moralization for the development of different regulatory approaches” (Hier et al., 2011: 263).

A consequence of this is that it enables dominant groups to introduce more stringent measures to regulate the deviant group. As Goode and Ben-Yehuda (2009: 35) note:

A major focus of that ‘something’ typically entails strengthening the social control apparatus of the society - tougher or renewed rules, more intense public hostility and condemnation, more laws, longer sentences, more police, more arrests, and more prison cells.

Cohen (2002: 66-7) described this process as “diffusion” in which a number of other agents of social control, such as policing bodies, are drawn into the control system. Hall et al. (1978) describe the same process as a “spiral of signification” in which each “new twist” increases concern and anxiety (Garland, 2008).

To deal with new or increasing perceived threats, connections between and among enforcement agencies are either activated or strengthened, which Cohen (2002: 67) described as ‘escalation.’ Goode and Ben-Yehuda (1994b: 156) summarize this process:

The police “escalate” their law enforcement efforts, “diffuse” them from precinct to precinct, and “innovate” new methods of social control; they operate under the ‘widening-the-net’ principle.

Nevertheless, the construction of a moral panic is contested ground. Discrepancies between the number of potential problems and the public space (or media arenas) available for addressing them, creates a fiercely competitive environment. Consequently, despite extensive media coverage, not all moral panics become institutionalized parts of the social environment.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Best 1990, 1999; Hilgartner and Bosk 1988

Cohen (2002:1) too acknowledged this, writing:

Sometimes the panic passes over and is forgotten, except in folklore and collective memory; at other times it has more serious and long-lasting repercussions and might produce such changes as those in legal and social policy or even in the way society conceives of itself.

The forms of moral panic of interest here are those that lead to institutional responses or enforcement mechanisms, which can include the “introduction of bills in legislatures to criminalize or otherwise deal with the behavior and the individuals supposedly causing the condition” (Goode and Ben-Yehuda, 1994b: 152). These forms of moral panic are important for organizational claims to legitimacy because they signal to “threatening agents” that the community is prepared for imminent danger. Further, implementing regulatory or enforcement mechanisms tell the community that “steps are being taken against the threat” (Goode and Ben-Yehuda, 2009: 138). This also brings legitimacy into the moral panic framework, highlighting the complexities of power operating in these spaces.

The significance of a problem-specific institutional response is that it enables dominant groups to respond to challenges and reassert their power and values, or claims to authority and legitimacy, through a regulatory framework.<sup>13</sup> According to Gusfield (1967: 178), these actions demonstrate “which cultures have legitimacy and public domination, and which do not. Accordingly it enhances the social status of groups carrying the affirmed culture and degrades groups carrying that which is condemned as deviant.” Further, these contested episodes actually constitutively contribute to wider systems of moral regulation (Hier et al., 2011)

Thus, unlike a fad, some moral panics leave a significant legacy. These events contribute to social change, acting as historical antecedents for later moral panics with informal or institutional legacies.<sup>14</sup> Analytically attending to legitimacy highlights ways in which these processes also provide opportunities for elite groups to position themselves as “doing the right thing” – as leaders in law and order campaigns or protecting the health or integrity of a community. In doing so, however, the evaluative and subjective nature of legitimacy means that dominant groups cannot take their claims to moral authority for granted. To maintain support, dominant groups must engage in ongoing work to generate consensus, from the public and other stakeholders, that the particular behavior or issue in question continues to threaten social order and warrants a strong institutional response.

In sum, this model proposed by Cohen (2002) and elaborated upon by Goode and Ben-Yehuda (2009) provides an important conceptual framework. The value of this approach is that it enables us to broaden the analysis to consider the role of other social actors and institutions. It provides tools with which to answer questions such as:

Why is a social problem “discovered” in one period rather than another? What steps are taken, and by whom, to remedy a given condition? Why ... take steps to remedy this condition but not that, even more harmful, one? Who wins, and who loses, if a given condition is recognized as a social problem? (Goode and Ben-Yehuda, 1994b: 152)

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<sup>13</sup> Gusfield, 1963; Schneider, 1985

<sup>14</sup> Goode and Ben-Yehuda 1994a; Killingbeck 2006

A modified moral panic model that includes a Weberian-inspired consideration of legitimacy helps us answer the question posed by Gusfield (1981: 5) decades ago: “Who and what institution gains or is given the responsibility for “doing something” about the issue?”

## Conclusion

Irrespective of criticisms of the original moral panic concept, Cohen started an important conversation around ways in which to theorize deviance and responses to deviance that continues to stimulate robust intellectual debate today. This paper has focused on the issue of legitimacy – and its construction – to provide a brief overview of one way in which moral panic theory could be modified and applied to contemporary contexts. Rather than relying on the somewhat limited observation that economic imperatives or issues of social control motivate elite groups, situating legitimacy within a moral panic framework demonstrates that elite interests, including the ability to pursue a commercial agenda and maintain a level of control, rests on perceptions that their authority is legitimate and valid. In other words, legitimacy is the cornerstone upon which rests the ability of elites to successfully achieve other goals.

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*Vanessa McDermott recently received her PhD from the Department of Sociology at the Australian National University. She has also worked as a Lecturer at the University of New South Wales and the University of Canberra.*



## 2012 DCC Award Recipients

Please again join us in congratulating our 2012 DCC Award recipients and their outstanding accomplishments! Our winners were:

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Victor Kappeler (Eastern Kentucky University)

**Critical Criminologists of the Year:** Molly Dragiewicz (University of Ontario Institute of Technology) and Stephen Richards (University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh)

**Graduate Student Paper:** Jennifer D. Carlson (University of California, Berkeley)

The **Lifetime Achievement Award** honors an individual's sustained and distinguished scholarship, teaching, and/or service in the field of critical criminology. The **Critical Criminologist of the Year Award** honors a person for distinguished accomplishments that have symbolized the spirit of the Division in some form of scholarship, teaching, and/or service in a recent year or years, and the **Graduate Student Paper Award** recognizes and honors outstanding theoretical or empirical critical criminological scholarship by graduate students.

The Chair of the 2012 DCC Awards Committee, Walter DeKeseredy, delivered a lively speech honoring award recipients, excerpts of which he has kindly shared with us for reprinting.

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Victor Kappeler (Eastern Kentucky University)



It is hard to say only a few words about Vic Kappeler because his empirical, theoretical and political work says so much. Vic is a Foundation professor of justice studies and associate dean in Eastern Kentucky University's College of Justice and Safety. He is a prolific criminologist and widely recognized as one of the world's leading scholars in the political economy of crime, policing, police civil liability and media and the social construction of crime. Lately, he is focusing on globalization and crime control.

In addition to this Lifetime Achievement Award, Vic has received many other honors, including the Outstanding Criminal Justice Alumnus Award from Sam Houston State University. In nominating him for the Sam Houston State Honor, Dr. Rolando V. del Carmen, Professor of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston University, correctly acknowledged, "There are only a handful of academic superstars in the field of criminal justice and Vic, by just about anybody's standard, is among them." Dr. Michael Vaughn, also a professor of criminal justice at Sam Houston, referred to Vic as, "a true scholar who has pioneered an entire area of research in criminal justice (and) shaped the careers of countless students who have gone on to be leaders in the discipline." Vic's CV is 35 pages long, the bulk of which lists important publications. No critical library is complete without Vic's co-authored book with Gary Potter, *The Mythology of Crime and*

*Criminal Justice*, which is now in its fourth edition. Vic is an intellectual force to be reckoned with, having done much to promote critical criminology. His work as editor of *Justice Quarterly* speaks for itself, and he has recruited critical articles in this highly regarded scholarly forum.

Vic is also kind man who goes out of his way to support his colleagues and students. His service to his profession is second to none. He has had a major impact on his many students, which one of his former students attests to in a letter submitted to the Awards Committee:

A somewhat naïve graduate student, I wandered into his course on Crime, Criminal Justice and Popular Culture honestly expecting to watch some Dirty Harry movies, perhaps even a few episodes of *The Wire*. Instead, I left the classroom every week wondering if my brain might burst as I was continually forced to think about the world I knew through a set of critical eyes I didn't even know I had. A group of us would go straight to the pub afterward to wash it all down, and the conversation that had already gone on for nearly three hours would continue well into the night. It is not an exaggeration, or silly cliché to state that he was "the spark that lit a fire" in all of our academic imaginations.

Vic does, indeed, embody what Jock Young refers to as the "criminological imagination."

**Critical Criminologists of the Year:** Molly Dragiewicz (University of Ontario Institute of Technology) and Stephen Richards (University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh)

### *Molly Dragiewicz*

In a short period of time, Molly has made many important contributions to our craft. She made the anti-feminist backlash against the violence against women movement an integral part of critical criminological inquiry. In addition to receiving this award, Molly won the Division on Women and Crime's (DWC) 2009 New Scholar Award.



Certainly, similar to Meda Chesney-Lind, Claire Renzetti, Susan Sharp, Susan Caringella, and many other feminist sisters, Molly is an important bridge between the DCC and DWC. Molly has published eleven refereed articles in journals that meet the highest disciplinary standards and two scholarly books. Her book, *Equality with a Vengeance: Men's Rights Groups, Battered Women, and Anti-feminist Backlash*, is internationally recognized as the "go-to" source on the topics she covers in it. The *Routledge Handbook on Critical Criminology* would not have come to fruition without her time, effort, and keen intellectual insight. Molly also has a slew of scholarly book

chapters, and there will be many more publications to come. She constantly reminds critical criminologists, and I will use her own words, that "gender matters."

A section a letter of nomination submitted to the Awards Committee by one of our colleagues nicely summarizes Molly's unique contributions to the field:

Molly understands that in order to truly influence change one must get involved within the field not simply criticize what is already being done. She has done this by playing a leadership role in the domestic violence field, where she is a longtime advisory board member and moderator of the Communities Against Violence Network (CAVNET) listserv (which serves an interdisciplinary group of lawyers, practitioners, advocates, scholars and judges) and serves in advisory roles for organizations like Jewish Women International's National Alliance to End Domestic Violence. She is frequently called upon to assist anti-violence organizations in responding to lawsuits and other forms of harassment by anti-feminist men's groups.

### *Stephen Richards*

Stephen Richards is a pioneering scholar, teacher and activist. He and a number of his colleagues have created a very important new direction in critical criminology: *Convict Criminology*. No book that surveys the field of critical criminology is complete without devoting attention to this new perspective.

Although prisoners and ex-convicts have long been the subject of criminological inquiry, criminologists who have had little contact with the criminal justice system do the bulk of the empirical and theoretical work on these marginalized groups. There is also another group of criminologists, such as those who specialize in the psychology of criminal conduct, who routinely enter correctional institutions only to subject prisoners to a battery of highly problematic psychological tests that end up supporting their flawed claim that crime is primarily a property of the individual. Such work fails to address the real experiences of convicts and ex-convicts, which is one of the key factors that motivates Steve's efforts are one of the main reasons for the birth of convict criminology.

Steve is a highly skilled ethnographer who "tells it like it is." He offers "inside perspectives" based on rigorous, thoughtful studies of prison life that powerfully challenge the "zoo keeping" approach of mainstream prison scholars. No critical library is complete without his path-breaking co-edited book (with Jeffrey Ian Ross) *Convict Criminology*. He has also written five other books, including another he completed with Jeff Ross, *Beyond Bars: Rejoining Society After Prison*. Note, too, that he has 35 refereed journal articles and a spate of other publications.

While Steve is a scholar in the true meaning of the word, for many people, more important is his ongoing work in prisons and with ex-prisoners. As described in a letter nominating him for this award, "Dr. Richards has personally mentored dozens of ex-cons, helped them get into college, graduate school and academic jobs." This letter also correctly notes, "He is indefatigable in his work on the behalf of those looking to incorporate themselves into 'normal' society." It is perhaps, then, not surprising that Steve has received many other awards for his work, including being named a Soros Justice Senior Fellow.

## **Graduate Student Paper: Jennifer D. Carlson (University of California, Berkeley)**

Jennifer D. Carlson is a Ph.D. Candidate in Sociology at University of California at Berkeley and will be joining the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto as an Assistant Professor in 2013. She received the Student Paper Prize for her paper, "I Don't Dial 911: American Gun Politics and the Problem of Policing," which has since been published in the *British Journal of Criminology*. For more information about her research and teaching, please refer to her website at <http://jdawncarlson.com/>

Photographs from the DCC Social are courtesy of the Rita Photography, and more images are available at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/mushroomrs/sets/72157632424114599/>

## ***News and Announcements***

### **Nominations for DCC Awards for 2013**

The ASC Division on Critical Criminology (DCC) invites nominations for this year's awards. This year, the DCC will sponsor six (6) awards:

- The Lifetime Achievement Award honors an individual's sustained and distinguished scholarship, teaching, and/or service in the field of critical criminology
- The Critical Criminologist of the Year Award honors an early-to-mid-career individual's distinguished accomplishments that have symbolized the spirit of the DCC in some form of scholarship, teaching, and/or service in recent years.
- The DCC Praxis Award recognizes an individual whose professional accomplishments have increased the quality of justice for groups that have experienced class, ethnic, gender, racial and sexual disparities in policing and punishment. The DCC Award for Contribution to Practice honors unique achievements in activism, commitment, persuasion, scholarship, service and teaching in areas that have made a significant impact on the quality of justice for underserved, underrepresented, and otherwise marginalized populations.
- The DCC Practice Award recognizes the activist/practitioner who has participated in publicly promoting and working towards the ideals of equality, justice and rights as they relate to the differential distribution of power in criminal justice and throughout society more generally. Nominees need not be criminologists or even academics, for that matter. Nominations should include specific documentation of public service and should describe in detail how this person's activism has raised awareness and interest in the issues that concern the DCC
- The Graduate Student Paper Award recognizes and honors outstanding theoretical or empirical critical criminological scholarship by a graduate student.
- The Undergraduate Student Paper Award recognizes and honors outstanding theoretical or empirical critical criminological scholarship by an undergraduate student.

Nominations for the Lifetime Achievement Award, Critical Criminologist of the Year Award, DCC Praxis Award, and DCC Practice Award must be submitted electronically and include letter(s) of nomination/support, as well as the nominee's curriculum vitae. Nominations for the student paper awards must be submitted electronically and include the student's unpublished paper. In order to further the careers of critical student scholars, the DCC Awards Committee may, in consultation with the Editor-in-Chief, invite student paper awards winners to submit their papers for publication in *Critical Criminology: An International Journal*. All nomination materials or paper submissions must be sent to Avi Brisman at [avi.brisman@eku.edu](mailto:avi.brisman@eku.edu) by 15 September 2013. The DCC Awards Committee reserves the right to give no award in a particular year if it deems this appropriate.

### Call for Participants:



The Summer School in Urban Ethnography @ UNITN aims to provide participants with an inside view on the practice of urban ethnography. Its key focus is understanding the city through ethnographic approaches at large. As the majority of the world's population now lives in cities (according to United Nations Habitat Agency's data), and as the complexity of urban space and urban life increases, it becomes all the more urgent to develop new regards and gain new insights on the urban process.

The first edition of the Summer School in Urban Ethnography @ UNITN draws on the expertise of the Department of Sociology in the study of urban sociology, urban culture and territorial analysis, as developed for instance at the Urban Ethnography Laboratory, which has already organized various series of seminars on both classic ethnography and current research.

How to Apply: The School is for 20 participants. The fee for participation is 375 €, inclusive of tuition, coffee breaks, lunches, and accommodation; travel costs are not included. To apply please send your Statement of Interest, your C.V., and a 500-word abstract of your Research Project (addressing the following key points: empirical context, focus, methods, research questions, advancement, name of the supervisor) to [urbanethnography@unitn.it](mailto:urbanethnography@unitn.it).

Applications are open until July 15, 2013. Acceptance will be notified within July 21st. Final registration and payment within July 31, 2013.

## **Calls for Papers**

### **Edited Collection, *Alternative Criminal Rehabilitation: Arts & Physical Engagement***

Editors: Wesley Crichlow & Janelle Joseph (University of Ontario Institute of Technology)

There is a crisis in the criminal justice system in North America. The recent *Toronto Star* newspaper article “Unequal justice: Aboriginal and Black inmates disproportionately fill Ontario jails” (2013/03/01) highlights which youth are at the centre of the crisis. The work of Michelle Alexander on Black male imprisonment in her text, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, and the McMurty and Curling 2008 report *The Roots of Youth Violence* clearly explain that the current practices and policies of the criminal justice system, which focus almost exclusively on punishment, are racialized and are not only failing but also have become expensive. Alternative rehabilitation and early intervention strategies are long overdue and fundamentally necessary to reduce recidivism, especially in generating healthy individuals and safe communities. Studies on “Alternatives to Incarceration Programs” have demonstrated that these programs generate prosocial attitudes; improve mental, physical and spiritual health; and play an integral role in dispute resolution.

Our proposed book, *Alternative Criminal Rehabilitation: Arts & Physical Engagement*, will bring together multiple perspectives on alternative rehabilitation as a contested and contestable space, and in doing so, highlight the complex interplay of social, creative, technical, economic and political factors that construct the landscape of alternative criminal rehabilitation. This book will focus its attention on the North American context, highlight the critical importance of arts, physical activity and achievement for at-risk youth and detail how social media and digital technologies are essential for program development, sharing and evaluation.

We encourage abstracts that analyze multiple dimensions of (in)justice within criminal justice, therapeutic, and educational contexts within frameworks that recognize the salience of social identities, including but not limited to class, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and ability. Anchored in empirical evidence, this book will provide case studies of innovative and influential rehabilitative interventions – from dance therapy, to music therapy, to mental health treatment through physical cultures. This comprehensive text will bring together a selection of recognized

scholars to provide an overview for students and practitioners working in or concerned with Youth Alternative Criminal Rehabilitation models and best practices around the globe.

This call is seeking abstract submissions for chapters from any disciplinary area related to the themes of this book. Possible chapter topics may include criminal rehabilitation and:

- Sport, dance, arts engagement, and art therapy programs
- Physical activity community interventions
- Arts therapies or interventions and achievement in at-risk youth
- Clinical art/movement therapies
- Specific populations (e.g. Black and racialized, mentally ill, women, Indigenous peoples)
- Grassroots resistance
- Program evaluation
- Virtual/gaming intervention projects and supervision
- Gamification
- The role of the state/private interests
- Changing paradigms of education/therapy
- Urban education, physical education, and gang prevention
- Issues of transnational information flows related to criminal (in)justice
- Issues of informed consent and research with at-risk populations
- Pre-trial diversion programs
- Ethno-culturally specific interventions and programming
- Government housing-to-prison pipeline
- School-to-prison pipeline

Please send a title, 300-word (max) chapter proposal, a 100-word bio, and references for two recent publications to [janelle.joseph@uoit.ca](mailto:janelle.joseph@uoit.ca) and [wesley.crichlow@uoit.ca](mailto:wesley.crichlow@uoit.ca) by September 30, 2013 for consideration by Routledge Press. Complete chapters of 5,000-6,000 words will be due December 31, 2013. Please contact the editors with any questions.

### ***Contemporary Justice Review* Special Issue: Animals & Issues of Law and Justice**

Final Deadline: March 31, 2014

*Contemporary Justice Review* is calling for paper submissions addressing the topic “Animals & Issues of Law and Justice” for a special issue of the journal. While the disciplines of Animal Law, Sociology, Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, and Biological Sciences, etc., publish extensively on issues concerns of non-human animals is interdisciplinary yet largely absent in criminology and justice studies. Therefore, bringing much needed attention to issues surrounding use, abuse, and research of animals demands CJR attention.

*Contemporary Justice Review* prefers articles written in accessible prose that avoids academic jargon and offers insights fostering justice in daily life, in this context, daily life involves the range of non-human animals and non-human animal companions. The proposed issue seeks papers placing non-human animals in an academic, practical, research, and other areas of interests and contexts.

Authors are encouraged to consider topics that may include, but are not limited to: animal abuse or cruelty; research on *The Link* involving the animal cruelty/family and/or interpersonal

violence and their nexus; pet protective orders and domestic violence; animals as victims of crime; breed-specific legislation; dog- and cock-fighting and the connection to gang culture or other matters of justice; the development and evolution of animal law regarding areas of animal cruelty and animal welfare in various jurisdictions; an analysis of the philosophies of animal rights vs. utilitarianism; the use of animal assisted therapy when working with at-risk youth; historical analyses of the animal rights movement; the role of animal control agencies in dealing with crimes against animals; animal welfare issues generally (i.e., the treatment of animals used in food production; animals used in the entertainment industry, etc.); laws concerning wildlife; the role of animals in restorative and transformative justice; animals as agents of healing; etc. These topics can be addressed through criticism, exposition and other forms of scholarly writing.

Titles and abstracts (250 words or fewer) should be submitted to the Special Issue Editor by **July 1, 2013**. Those authors whose work are selected will be notified by **September 3, 2013**. Completed work is due **March 31, 2014** for inclusion in an upcoming issue of the journal. Questions about prospective proposals should be directed to CJR Special Issue Editor, **Sue C. Escobar** ([scote@csus.edu](mailto:scote@csus.edu)).

*Contemporary Justice Review* is an interdisciplinary journal for scholars, practitioners, and activists around the globe who seek to explore new models and demonstration projects of justice that reflect just social arrangements at the local to the international level. The journal reflects a variety of formats including scholarly articles; roundtable discussions; interviews; testimonial narratives; and film and/or book reviews.

Any CRJ manuscript issues or and queries about submission procedures can be directed to:

Assistant Editor, **Brandi Vigil**      Editor-in-Chief: **Dan Okada**  
E-mail: [brandi.vigil@gmail.com](mailto:brandi.vigil@gmail.com)      Email: [dokada@csus.edu](mailto:dokada@csus.edu)

### **New Series: *Theoretical Criminology: Concepts and Constructions***

*Theoretical Criminology: Interdisciplinary Concepts and Constructions* is a peer-reviewed collection of some of the best cross-disciplinary studies focusing on contemporary theory and thought from across the social sciences and humanities. It combines theory with its implications for thinking about issues of crime and justice, bringing digestible actionable summaries to researchers, students and policy makers. It's where social theory and criminology meet.

#### *About the Series*

Each book in this series is designed to be of interest to advanced crime and justice students and professors interested in the theoretical enrichment of their scholarship and pedagogy. Books are chosen for their value in bringing theory and perspective from across the disciplines to bear on issues of crime, justice and criminology. These condensed treatments bring insight and understanding from the world of the social science and humanities to that of crime and criminal justice. Each work is designed to provide students and scholars a rigorous introduction to the theory or perspective under consideration as well as its direct implications for the way we think about issues of crime and justice. The collection includes explorations of theory and perspectives ranging from cultural geography and justice to the bio-politics of law and governance.



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*Please contact the series editor with your ideas, proposals or submissions:*

Victor E. Kappeler, Associate Dean and Foundation Professor, Eastern Kentucky University

Phone: (859) 622-7888

Email: [victor.kappeler@eku.edu](mailto:victor.kappeler@eku.edu)

***Conference: 'Penal law, Abolitionism and Anarchism'***

British/Irish section of the European Group for the Study of Deviance and Social Control and the Hulsman Foundation

Saturday 26th - Sunday 27th April 2014, Shire Hall, Nottingham

Can we imagine law without the state? Could what we now call ‘crime’ be dealt with by means other than criminal law and punishment? This conference seeks to explore interrelationships and tensions that exist between the philosophies and practices associated with penal law, abolitionism and anarchism. It aims to provide a space for the interdisciplinary exploration of complex critiques of state law and legality, criminalization and other forms of state and corporate power in neoliberal contexts.

The rich and complex European tradition of abolition recently explored in great detail by Vincenzo Ruggiero, to which Louk Husman made such a creative contribution, provides important intellectual resources to challenge neoliberal penal and social [well/war –fare] politics and policies and to expose their harms and underlying power-dynamics. Joe Sim underlined the continued importance of Angela Davis’ concept of ‘abolitionist alternatives’ as well as of forms of a renewed penal activism. These and other abolitionist or minimalist approaches to criminal justice challenge existing hegemonic belief systems that continue to legitimate the generation of harms via the operations of law, psychology, criminology, the media and frequently shape public opinion. For some critical criminologists such reflections might imply promoting an Anarchist Criminology, while for others this might involve the use of courts to challenge decisions made by ministers. The direct action taken by the Occupy movement and similar movements (e.g. UK Uncut) can of course also be linked to a diversity of philosophies and principles of anarchism as well as to contemporary media movements and digital activism that are of crucial relevance in the current context.

Suggestions for presentations/posters/workshops on a range of foci are welcome:

- Anarchism and law
- Feminisms and anarchism
- Anarchist criminology
- Anarchism in Media Movements and Digital Activism
- Market abolitionism
- Abolitionism and resistance to imprisonment
- Decarceration movements, eco-ability and animal rights
- Globalisation, ‘crime’ and political economy

Deadline for abstracts: 30 November 2013. For further details please contact Andrea Beckmann [[abeckmann@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:abeckmann@lincoln.ac.uk)] or Tony Ward [[A.Ward@hull.ac.uk](mailto:A.Ward@hull.ac.uk)]

## **Calls for Applicants**

### **Assistant/Associate Professor, School of Justice Studies, Eastern Kentucky University**

The School of Justice Studies in the College of Justice and Safety at Eastern Kentucky University seeks to fill a nine-month, tenure-track position to begin in either the spring of 2014 or fall of 2014. Responsibilities include teaching in both our undergraduate and graduate programs. Our School offers undergraduate degrees in Criminal Justice, Corrections and Police Studies, and graduate degrees in Criminal Justice and Corrections that have a strong critical thinking component with emphasis on research and scholarship.

A completed Ph.D. in Criminal Justice or a related field is required by January 2014. Degree(s) must be from a regionally accredited or internationally recognized institution.

Additional details, including online application form, are available at: <https://jobs.eku.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1372379059532>

### **Assistant Professor of Criminology, Law and Society, George Mason University**

The George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society invites applicants for two full-time, tenure-track Assistant Professor positions to start August 2014. We are seeking individuals with active research agendas in criminology, criminal justice, and law and society.

Qualifications: A Ph.D. in the social sciences or a relevant field of study is required; we welcome applicants who hold both a Ph.D. and J.D. degree. Applicants nearing the completion of their doctorate will be considered. The successful candidate should be strongly committed to teaching in a multidisciplinary undergraduate and graduate program, and demonstrate significant promise in scholarly research and extramural grant activity.

The Department of Criminology, Law and Society is a multidisciplinary unit located on the Fairfax campus that offers degrees at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels. Our graduate program balances theory, empirical research, and policy applications. Our undergraduate program has concentrations in law and society, criminal justice, and homeland security. More information on the department and the research activities of the faculty and various research centers is available at <http://cls.gmu.edu/>.

Review of applications will begin on September 16, 2013, and continue until the position is filled. Applicants must apply online at <http://jobs.gmu.edu> for position number F9039z; complete the faculty application; and attach a cover letter, CV, and representative research articles. Also, three letters of reference should be submitted, either through e-mail to [alonetti@gmu.edu](mailto:alonetti@gmu.edu); or via USPS mail to Ms. Annie Lonetti, Criminology, Law, and Society, George Mason University, MSN4F4, Fairfax, VA 22030. Inquiries about the position can be addressed to the department chair, David Wilson, at [dwilsonb@gmu.edu](mailto:dwilsonb@gmu.edu). AA/EOE

### **Assistant Professor of Criminology, Lynchburg College**

Lynchburg College in Lynchburg, Virginia, invites applications for a tenure-track criminology faculty member appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor beginning August 2014. Applicants should have completed a doctoral program in criminology or criminal justice and have demonstrated promise of excellence in teaching and scholarly research. Special consideration will be given to those candidates with experience in research methods and statistics. Selected candidate must pass a background check that is satisfactory to the College. Review of applications will begin immediately and will remain active until position is filled. Applicants should submit a cover letter, curriculum vita, teaching evaluations, graduate transcript, and three letters of reference to: Dr. Charles Walton, Department of Sociology and Criminology, Lynchburg College, 1501 Lakeside Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24501. EOE

## **Multiple Positions, College of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Florida State University**

The College of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida State University is a growing and vibrant academic community which fosters an environment of collaborative research and intellectual stimulation among its faculty and students. The College invited applications for multiple open rank positions to begin Fall 2014. The area of specialization is open.

Applicants are expected to have a demonstrated ability to conduct and publish significant research, as well as contribute to an environment committed to collegiality, diversity, and graduate education. Women and minority candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. Review of applications will begin September 16<sup>th</sup> and continue until the positions are filled. Interested persons should submit a letter of application, a research and teaching statement, a curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation to: Dr. Eric Stewart, Search Committee Chair, College of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Florida State University, 634 West Cal Street, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1127. For further information about the College, please visit our website at <http://crim.fsu.edu/>

Florida State University is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to excellence through diversity. Florida State University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and is a public records agency pursuant to Chapter 118 of the Florida Statutes.

## **Assistant Professor, Criminology, Indiana University of Pennsylvania**

The Department of Criminology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) invites applications for two tenure-track faculty positions at the Assistant Professor level to begin August 2014. Doctorate in Criminology, Criminal Justice or closely related social science discipline required. Review of applications will begin September 16, 2013 and continue until the positions are filled. Visit <http://www.iup.edu/employment> for a complete job description and application procedures. IUP is an equal opportunity employer M/F/H/V and a member of the PA State System of Higher Education.

## **Assistant Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Northern Arizona University**

Northern Arizona University's Criminology and Criminal Justice Department invites applications for a tenure-track position at the level of Assistant Professor beginning August 2014 (subject to final budgetary approval).

We are seeking applicants for a full-time, nine month, tenure-track Assistant Professor position. The teaching load will be 3/2 courses a year, with an expectation to participate in learner-centered pedagogy (such as blended learning strategies and web-based delivery) and service in contribution to department and university needs. An active research agenda is expected, though the specific areas of research expertise or specialization are open. All applications and specializations will be considered that provide both depth and breadth to existing department areas. The Assistant Professor appointment is a valued position within the NAU Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, with full participation in faculty governance and service.

Minimum Qualifications: A Ph.D. by the time of appointment in criminology, sociology, criminal justice, or a closely related academic discipline.

Preferred Qualifications: Preferred qualifications include: (1) evidence of successful teaching experience at the university level; (2) evidence of experience with learner-centered pedagogy (such as blended learning strategies, on-line instruction, short courses, and problem-based learning); (3) experience teaching (or willingness to contribute to) the department's core curriculum at the undergraduate and especially graduate levels; (4) evidence of teaching and/or research in drug policy, law, courts, policing, and/or corrections; (5) strong quantitative research skills and a demonstrated capability to teach quantitative research methods; (6) evidence of an active research agenda; and (7) a commitment to working effectively within a diverse university community.

Application Deadline: This position will be open until filled or closed. Review of applications will begin on September 27, 2013.

Application Procedure: To apply, send a cover letter describing the position of interest, research and teaching interests and experience, a curriculum vita, a teaching portfolio (e.g., statement of philosophy of teaching, sample syllabi, course assignments, course/student evaluations), examples of scholarly work, transcripts of all college-level work and graduate degrees, and names and contact info for three references to: Criminology and Criminal Justice Assistant Professor Department Search Committee (Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Northern Arizona University, Box 15005, Flagstaff, Arizona 86011-15005). No on-line applications will be accepted.

Northern Arizona University requires satisfactory results for the following: a criminal background investigation, an employment history verification and a degree verification (in some cases) prior to employment. You may also be required to complete a fingerprint background check. Additionally, NAU is required to participate in the federal E-Verify program that assists employers with verifying new employees' right to work in the United States. For further information, see our website at: <http://www.nau.edu/sbs/ccj>.

### **Assistant Professor, Criminology, Law and Society, University of California, Irvine (UCI)**

The Department of Criminology, Law and Society at the University of California, Irvine invites applications for an Assistant Professor, with a focus on Criminology. A PhD is required and the position will begin July 1, 2014 (teaching duties to begin Fall 2014). For an appointment at an advanced Assistant Professor rank, evidence of success in securing extramural funding to support research and graduate students is desired. To ensure your application is given full consideration, files should be completed by **October 1, 2013**. Priority will be given to applications received by that date; however, applications will be accepted until filled. Applications must be uploaded electronically. Please refer to the link called "Criminology, Law and Society Application Process" for instructions on how to apply here: <http://socialecology.uci.edu/faculty-positions/1168/>. Please direct questions about this position to Charis Kubrin ([ckubrin@uci.edu](mailto:ckubrin@uci.edu)).

The University of California is an equal opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity and encourages applications from all qualified applicants including women, minorities, and other under-represented groups. UCI is responsive to the needs of dual career couples, is dedicated to work-life balance, and is the recipient of an NSF Advance Award for gender equity.

**Tenure-track Assistant Professor & Limited-term Assistant or Associate Professor,  
Department of Criminology, University of West Georgia**

The Department of Criminology at the University of West Georgia invites applications for two positions: 1) a full-time, tenure-track Assistant Professor to begin August 2013, and 2) a limited term Assistant or Associate Professor to begin August 2013. Criminology is a rapidly growing department offering the B.S. and M.A. degrees with 500 undergraduate and 20 graduate students.

All applications will be reviewed but special consideration will be given to those who have a substantive interest in teaching one or more of the following courses: corrections, theory, or social science research methods. Candidates will be required to teach face-to-face and fully online courses.

A Ph.D. in Criminology/Criminal Justice or a related field is required. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Successful candidates need a strong commitment to teaching, an active research agenda, and the ability to enhance the department. Located 45 miles west of Atlanta, the University of West Georgia is classified as a Doctoral Comprehensive University by the University System of Georgia.

Interested applicants are invited to visit the department website at <http://criminology.westga.edu>. E-mail the following materials to Meggie Miller, University of West Georgia at [meggiem@westga.edu](mailto:meggiem@westga.edu) 1) cover letter addressing qualifications, 2) curriculum vitae, and 3) contact information for three references. All files must be saved in .pdf format. Please do not send other materials at this time. A Ph.D. is required by time of appointment. Screening of applications begins July 1, 2013 and continues until the position is filled.

Finalists will be required to submit to criminal background investigations. The University of West Georgia is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and welcomes applications from women and minorities.

**Assistant Professor specializing in Criminology, Miami University (OH)**

Miami University's Department of Sociology & Gerontology seeks applicants for a tenure-track appointment at the assistant professor level beginning August 2014. We seek a scholar with specialization in criminology. Research and teaching foci include the social scientific aspects of criminology, social justice studies, social problems, and/or social deviancy. The successful candidate will also be able to teach undergraduate research methods. Applicants must have an active research agenda and prior teaching experience. Teaching responsibilities are primarily at the undergraduate level. We will consider applicants with a terminal degree in sociology, criminology, or social justice studies. Applicants must have completed their PhD by Aug 2014.

Miami University, founded in 1809 serves more than 16,000 students (<http://miamioh.edu>). A residential university, Miami is nationally recognized for its student-centered undergraduate education in the traditional liberal arts, selected masters and doctoral programs, and community of productive scholars.

Applicants should send a cover letter that includes their research agenda and teaching philosophy, curriculum vitae, evidence of teaching effectiveness, and the names of three references to: Debbie Gardner (gardned1@miamioh.edu), Administrative Assistant, Department of Sociology & Gerontology, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056, Phone: 513.529.2628. Screening begins October 1, 2013.

Miami University is an EOE/AA employer with smoke-free campuses. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

### **Postdoctoral Scholar in Criminal Justice Research, The Pennsylvania State University**

The Justice Center for Research at PSU ([www.justicecenter.psu.edu](http://www.justicecenter.psu.edu)) announces the availability of an early career position in the area of criminal justice research. We will consider any area of Criminal Justice, including corrections, sentencing, policing, victimology, offender networks and behavior, and studies of children-at-risk for delinquency (e.g. bullying).

The Justice Center is designed to facilitate interactions between university faculty and local, state, national and international communities to promote research in criminology. The Justice Center is presently engaged in over 20 projects across the criminal justice spectrum, and has a strong track record of grant funding. The position will offer the opportunity for involvement in innovative research projects, experience in preparing grant applications and substantial opportunities for publication. The individual selected will be encouraged and supported in developing or continuing an independent line of investigation, as well as preparing and submitting grant applications. Candidates should be committed to pursuing a well-defined research agenda, and should be prepared to articulate such an agenda during consideration for this position. The Center offers many opportunities for collaboration with experts in a variety of fields, and the post doc will be encouraged and supported in building collaborations with existing faculty. Successful applicants must have completed all requirements for the Ph.D. before starting the position, and within the previous four academic years. This appointment is for one year, with the potential for renewal up to 3 years.

Applicants should have relevant research experience and a capacity to work closely with others. Candidates should submit an online application at <http://www.la.psu.edu/facultysearch/>. A complete application will include: 1) A cover letter detailing the candidate's qualifications and area of relevant research interest; 2) A current curriculum vitae. Review of applicants will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

### **The McKenzie Fellowship, The University of Melbourne**

Melbourne Research invites applications for the McKenzie Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program 2014, for outstanding recent doctoral graduates to conduct research at the University in areas of research priority. Applicants will normally have evidence of a PhD awarded no earlier than 1 January 2011 from a university other than the University of Melbourne (UoM) and must not hold a fixed term or continuing appointment at UoM that is greater than one year duration. Fellows will be employed at Level A.6 for a maximum of 3 years and will receive \$25,000 for project cost. Closing date is 9 September 2013. Please see <http://mro.unimelb.edu.au/content/mckenzie-fellowships> or email [mckenzie-application@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mckenzie-application@unimelb.edu.au) for further information.

### **Lecturer, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Denver**

The Department of Sociology and Criminology in the Divisions of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Denver invites applications for a one-year lecturer beginning in September 2013. This position is designed for individuals who are ABD or have recently completed their PhD in Sociology or Criminology. Preferred qualifications include demonstrated expertise in crime/law/deviance.

The successful candidate will teach six courses over three quarters (two per quarter). Courses include: Introduction to Sociology, Criminology, and departmental electives in the candidate's specialty area. We will begin considering applications on June 28.

For information about the department please see: <http://www.du.edu/ahss/schools/sociology>.

To apply, please complete the on-line application at <https://www.dujobs.org/> and attach: a letter of application (including a statement of research and teaching interests); a vitae; contact information for three references; and a teaching portfolio (teaching philosophy, teaching evaluations, sample syllabi, and any evidence of teacher training). Additional materials can be sent to Lecturer Search Committee, Department Sociology and Criminology, University of Denver, 2000 E. Asbury Ave--MSC 0942, Denver, CO 80208-0942. The University of Denver is committed to enhancing the diversity of its faculty and staff and encourages applications from women, minorities, people with disabilities and veterans.

### **Lecturer, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Northern Arizona University**

Northern Arizona University's Criminology and Criminal Justice Department invites applications for multiple non tenure-track lecturer appointments beginning August 2014.

We are seeking applicants for several full-time, nine month, non-tenure-track lecturer positions. Applicants must be willing and able to teach four courses per semester. However, depending on research and/or service activity level, this may be negotiable. The applicant must have a Master's degree by the time of appointment, although a Ph.D. in a related area is preferred. Although the area of research expertise is open, we are seeking individuals who can teach our core courses as well as a broad range of electives. We are particularly seeking those who demonstrate teaching experience or potential for teaching effectiveness in the following areas: research methods, our junior-level writing course on diversity and criminal justice, media and justice and who can teach a subset of the following courses: introduction to criminology and criminal justice, criminology, and law enforcement. The Lecturer appointment is a valued position within the NAU Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, with full participation in faculty governance and service. Although the appointment is a one-year position, the option for continued renewal and promotion exists, based on performance, departmental need, and funding availability.

**Minimum Qualifications:** For all positions, a Masters degree in Criminology, Sociology, or Criminal Justice, or a closely related field and one year University teaching-related experience.

**Preferred Qualifications:** Preferred qualifications for all positions include: a Ph.D. in a related area and evidence of willingness to work with department faculty in learner-centered pedagogy



(such as blended learning strategies; on-line instruction and short courses). One year of university teaching-related experience as the instructor of record. Evidence of scholarly research in candidate's area of specialization. We are also seeking candidates who are committed to working effectively within a diverse university community.

Application Deadline: This position will be open until filled or closed. Review of applications will begin on September 27, 2013.

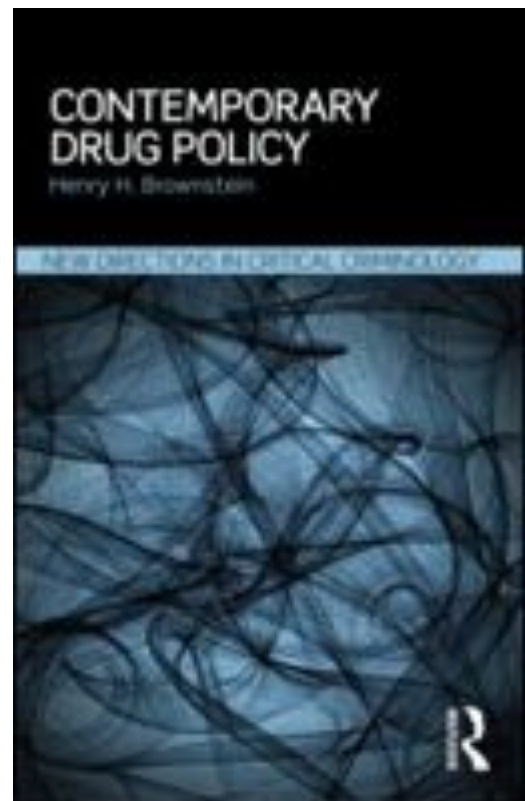
To apply, send a cover letter describing the position(s) of interest, research and teaching interests and experience. Also provide a curriculum vita, a teaching portfolio (e.g., statement of philosophy of teaching, sample syllabi, course assignments, course/student evaluations), transcripts of all college-level work and graduate degrees, and three letters of recommendations to: Criminology and Criminal Justice Department Lecturer (600375) Search Committee (Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Northern Arizona University, Box 15005, Flagstaff, Arizona 86011-15005). No on-line applications will be accepted.

## ***Critical Scholarship***

### ***Contemporary Drug Policy* by Henry Brownstein**

This book focuses on the use of drugs in our lives and how we respond to them. Whereas drug policy typically centres on the problems of illicit drugs or licit drugs used in illicit ways or circumstances, *Contemporary Drug Policy* instead considers the wide variety of substances we call drugs as a normal part of our personal and social experience and asks how and when drugs benefit us as well as how and when they are harmful.

The evidence is clear that at some times, in some circumstances, and in some places drugs are a problem. This book does not ignore these issues but shifts our attention to making policies that also recognize their legitimate and constructive place in society. It focuses on asking questions, challenging assumptions and developing responses to drugs based on evidence from scientific study as directed by critical criminological theory rather than mainstream theory or unfounded assumptions.



Different from other books on drug policy, this book does not offer answers or solutions. Rather it shows how critical criminological theories can lead scientific research in new directions supportive of policies that offer both solutions to problems that are found to be related to drugs and an appreciation for the benefits that drugs can bring to people and society. This book will be

of interest to those studying or researching drug policy as well as professionals involved in policy-making processes.

**Henry H. Brownstein** is a Senior Fellow in the Substance Abuse, Mental Health and Criminal Justice Studies Department at NORC at the University of Chicago, USA. For almost 30 years he has been studying drug policy, drugs and crime, and drug markets. He has published several books and dozens of articles and book chapters on topics including drug policy, drugs and violence, drug markets, qualitative research methods, and the relationship between research and policy. He earned his PhD in sociology in 1977 from Temple University, USA.

***The Complexities of Police Corruption: Gender, Identity and Misconduct***

by Marilyn Corsianos (Rowman and Littlefield, 2012)

*The Complexities of Police Corruption* provides a comprehensive examination of the role of gender and hegemonic masculinity as it relates to police corruption, crime control, and policing as an institution. Author Marilyn Corsianos examines different forms of corruption, including some behaviors that are generally not recognized as corruption by police departments, such as selective law enforcement, racial profiling, gender bias and other discriminatory police practices against marginalized populations. The book also explores the role of police culture in preserving and defending misconduct and digs into the thorny question of why significantly fewer women are involved in police corruption.

**Marilyn Corsianos** is professor of criminology and sociology at Eastern Michigan University. She is the author of *Policing and Gendered Justice* (University of Toronto Press, 2009), which was named a CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title, and the coeditor of *Interrogating Social Justice*. She has written numerous articles on policing, power and social inequalities.

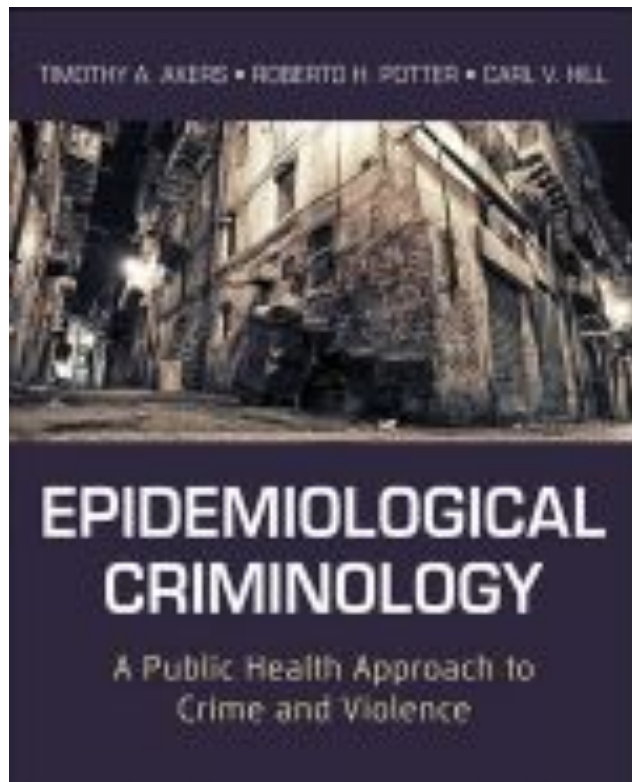
Reviews:

Too often, gendered study means looking at women. This pathbreaking work on police corruption incorporates insights from masculinities studies and cultural criminology to show that corruption is a gendered activity that is intertwined with hegemonic masculinity. Marilyn Corsianos adds immeasurably to the study of policing through her demonstration that police culture and the media shape police hypermasculinity. Her suggestions that the Community Policing Model can reduce both patriarchal influence and corruption are especially provocative.

— Martin D. Schwartz, George Washington University

Corsianos tackles police corruption and misconduct through a number of lenses, including the one that has been most necessary and ignored, the role of masculinity.

— Joanne Belknap, University of Colorado



*Epidemiological Criminology: A Public Health Approach to Crime and Violence*

Written by the three leading experts in the field, this book combines an introduction to the sources and methods of epidemiological criminology and an application of these methods to some of the most vexing problems now confronting researchers and practitioners in public health and criminology.

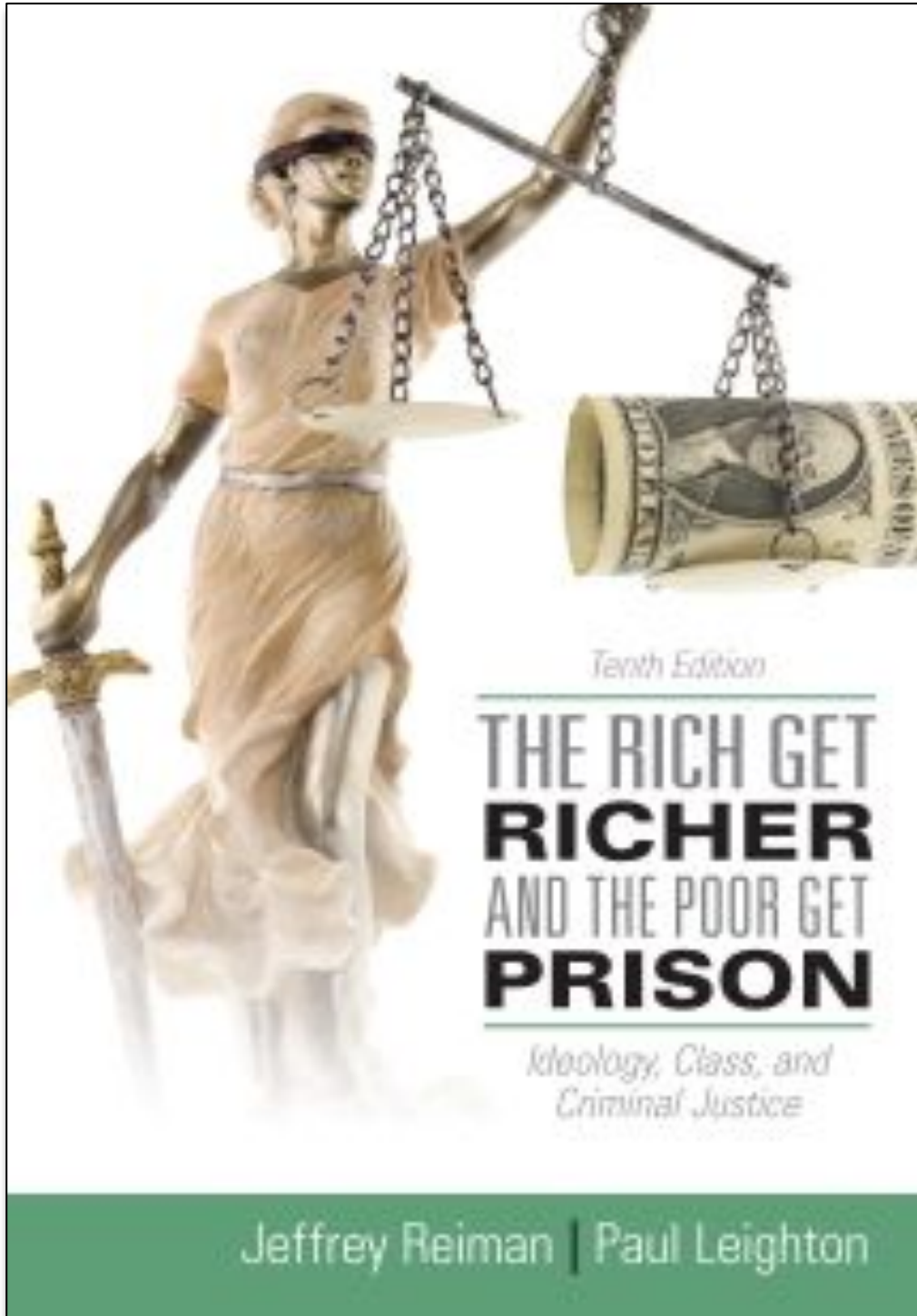
The book describes, explains, and applies the newly formulated practice of epidemiological criminology, an emerging discipline that links methods and statistical models of public health, particularly epidemiological theory, methods, and models, with the corresponding tools of their criminal justice counterparts. The book also applies epidemiological criminology as a practical tool to address population issues of violence and crime on a national and global basis.

**Timothy A. Akers** is a professor of public health and associate dean for graduate studies and research in the School of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences and director of the Center for Health Informatics, Planning and Policy at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland.

**Roberto H. Potter** is the director of research partnerships at the Department of Criminal Justice, College of Health and Public Affairs at the University of Central Florida.

**Carl V. Hill** is a health scientist administrator and contract officer's representative with the National Institutes of Health, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

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