

morality. Medicine's striving toward equitable distribution of scarce resources was particularly explored as was the role that culture, social truths, and social resistance play in these determinations.

Chapter 2 covers bioethics and conduct of mental health professionals in the war on terror. Dr. Aggarwal walks us through case vignettes to portray the dilemmas faced by the clinician in the context of the pressure being exerted by the employing organization. He highlights how an evaluator may get pulled in multiple ethics-related directions, even when his professional associations have been unable to issue position statements. Readers would be enriched by Aggarwal's exploration of Foucauldian discourse analysis and bioethical scholarship.

Chapter 3 dissects the meanings of symptoms and services for Guantanamo detainees. The use of Guantanamo Bay to avert constitutional conflict has aroused ethics-based and legal debates among constitutional scholars. Aggarwal homes in on this dilemma by pointing out that even President Obama, who campaigned for closing the facility and even mentioned it in his acceptance of the Nobel Peace prize, yet was unable to close it throughout his eight years in office. Aggarwal's exploration of the ethics and cultural basis of these decisions helps educate readers on how complex these situations usually are and that there are no straightforward answers.

Chapter 4 sheds light on how Arabs and Muslims are depicted in psychodynamic scholarship. The concept of "Muslim mind" and "Orientalism" are explored, including how we inadvertently peculiarize Arabs and Muslims based on our ingrained perception of cultural differences between East and West. This cultural conditioning<sup>1</sup> creates stereotypes and pathological schema of alien groups and influences our decision-making. In Chapter 5, Aggarwal uses Alison Howell's concept of securitization of medicine and medicalization of security concerns to analyze the mental health construction and psychopathology of suicide bombing.

This book has palpable flaws. Throughout the text, Aggarwal allows his sentiments to taint his impressive discourse analyses. In the preface, he refers to how psychiatrists conjecture about the irrational motivation of suicide bombers, the wish of the state to punish undesirable populations, and the political use of psychiatry. There is minimal analysis of the origin and credibility of the fear that prompts this negative backlash from the lens of the affected society. Even

though case vignettes are used to buttress the dilemmas faced by clinicians, readers are unable to identify how such vignette selections were made and how this selection process could bias the overall narrative.

Even scholars like Elisha Davar (p 90) and Fakhry Davids (p 91) who balanced their arguments and warned against stereotyping Islam, were accused by the author of reproducing East–West dichotomy and fostering divisions. Aggarwal's proposal (p 132) for a Guantanamo court to use a cleric from the Al-Qaeda Organization in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) to serve as an expert witness is emotive and controversial. Stating that the United States government markets patriotism by valorizing economic growth (p 15) is not constructive. Wanting someone to be diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder because the diagnosis will improve his life (p 19) should not be the role of a forensic evaluator. In these situations, Aggarwal does not consider the difficulty in wearing two hats (as a physician and as an objective evaluator), but rather portrays medical system as "agents of social control through our presumed objectivity" (p 20). Condemnation of how Muslims and Arabs are depicted is regarded as noble, yet prejudicial motives are ascribed to scholars and mental health practitioners.

Overall, this is a powerful book that will challenge our assumptions and facilitate emotive debates on culture, medicine, and psychiatry. It is recommended reading for lawyers and forensic clinicians and nonclinicians alike.

## Reference

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## Principles and Practice of Forensic Psychiatry

Edited by Richard Rosner, MD, and Charles L. Scott, MD, Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press, 2017. 1066 pp. \$295.00

The long-awaited third edition of *Principles and Practice of Forensic Psychiatry* is finally here. For

this edition, Dr. Charles Scott joins Dr. Richard Rosner to edit a collection of 101 chapters organized into 11 sections that prove to be a treasure trove of information spanning the breadth of forensic psychiatry. The sections are as follows: History and Practice of Forensic Psychiatry, Legal Regulation of Psychiatry, Forensic Evaluation and Treatment in the Criminal Justice System, Civil Law, Family Law and Domestic Relations, Correctional Psychiatry, Aggression and Violence, Psychological and Neuroimaging Assessments, Special Topics in Forensic Psychiatry, Basic Issues in Law, and Landmark Cases in Forensic Psychiatry. Since the publication of the second edition, several landmark legal decisions have influenced the practice of forensic psychiatry, including *Sell v. United States*, *Clark v. Arizona*, *Indiana v. Edwards*, *Miller v. Alabama*, *Hall v. Florida*, and *Roper v. Simmons*, and this edition has been thoroughly updated to account for these landmark rulings. In addition, since the last edition, neuroimaging has increasingly made its way into the courtroom to illuminate (or obfuscate) psycholegal questions, and the book contains an excellent chapter exploring this growing area of practice. The book has also been updated to reflect changes in diagnostic nomenclature in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5),<sup>1</sup> most apparent in the chapter on amnesia.

The section on correctional psychiatry, increasingly recognized as an important facet of forensic psychiatry, has been expanded and includes additional chapters on hunger strikes and the right to refuse treatment in a correctional setting. The extensive scholarly output on correctional psychiatry in recent years makes a full treatment of the topic beyond the scope of this text, but the book's section provides an excellent overview of the field.

The important topic of aggression and violence gets its own section in this edition, with chapters on women and violence, mass murder, terrorism, and cyberstalking.

As psychological testing, structured risk assessment instruments, and tools for evaluating malingering are now commonplace in forensic evaluations, this edition has a whole section devoted to psychological testing. However, these chapters are

not comprehensive, but instead provide a brief overview of some of the more common tools in use. This section is likely to be most helpful to those practitioners who are unfamiliar with the use of such tests.

In addition to the staple topics of the field such as criminal and civil competencies, criminal responsibility, and civil litigation, one finds information on more nuanced topics, such as brainwashing, mass murder, and the psychological evaluation of torture. Each chapter is succinctly written, bursting with facts, and easy to read. For quick reference, each chapter concludes with a box summarizing its key points. The text is organized in such a way that each chapter stands alone, and in fact, one can dip into a specific section of an individual chapter if looking for information on a particular topic. Each chapter lists references for those wishing to expand their interests.

Given how large (and heavy) the book is, it is especially helpful that an e-book is accessible with purchase of the written version, making the publication accessible by internet from anywhere. The e-book is also viewable on smart phones or tablets via the Bookshelf app. It has audio capability (a text-to-speech reader rather than an audio recording of the text), which may be appealing for those preparing for board examinations or for the busy forensic fellow. This feature even allows the user to alter the speed of narration, but unfortunately, the fastest speeds offered are actually so fast as to be unintelligible.

The text is too lengthy to be used in isolation as preparation for the forensic psychiatry initial certification or maintenance of certification examinations. However, the summaries of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law Landmark Cases in the final chapters could be particularly useful for that purpose. The text will be of immense value to psychiatry residents, forensic psychiatry fellows, forensic psychiatrists and psychologists in practice, and lawyers wishing to acquaint themselves with the interface of psychiatry and the law. This book stands out as the most comprehensive and up-to-date survey of American forensic psychiatry and is a must-have acquisition for the bookshelves of every discerning forensic psychiatrist, psychologist, and trainee.

## Reference

1. American Psychiatric Association: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association, 2013

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## Psychiatry and the Law: Basic Principles

Edited by Tobias Wasser. Cham, Switzerland: Springer International Publishing AG, 2017. 195 pp. \$109.99 (hardcover), \$84.99 (e-book).

This book was edited and written by Yale-trained forensic psychiatrists. Dr. Wasser has elevated what at first appears to be a primer to a curriculum on the complex relationship between clinical psychiatry and the law. He sets the stage in the Introduction, by contextualizing forensic psychiatry within two domains, each with an accompanying table: the impact of the law in various practice settings and locating forensic psychiatry embedded in Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) residency training milestones. This grounding is carried through the succeeding chapters to make a resounding point: medicolegal matters have great relevance to psychiatric practice.

Wasser uses several pedagogical devices that make the work compelling. He maintains tight control of the narrative, format, and tone of the chapters. There is a uniformity of language and a pleasant user friendliness throughout. Indeed, the harmonization of voice among chapters is so well done that I am reluctant to identify standouts. The chapters begin with clinical vignettes, written to the reader with second-person pronouns, placing the reader in a problem-solving mode, leaving questions unanswered (What would you do?). The vignettes are immediately followed by a dose of reality with a different flavor: a landmark case illustrating a medicolegal problem's course through the legal system. Although the cases cannot always provide clinical guidance, they illustrate generic

principles: for example, operational definitions of consent, confidentiality, civil commitment, and risk of harm.

Between the Introduction and Conclusion are 14 chapters: Informed Consent, Confidentiality and Privilege, Duties to Third Parties, Voluntary and Involuntary Hospitalization, Civil Commitment and Involuntary Outpatient Commitment, Involuntary Medication, Civil Competence, Ethics, Malpractice, Suicide Risk Assessment, Violence Risk Assessment, Substance Abuse and the Law, Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry, and The Insanity Defense and Competence to Stand Trial. Each follows the template described and is followed by about 20 references (with a few exceptions).

Throughout the chapters, authors maintain focus on the necessity for the practitioner to consult applicable statutes and case law within each jurisdiction. Each chapter concludes with major teaching points. The use of graphics and tables is minimal but helpful, while mnemonics, less sparing, are not memorable. Although some of the topics are complex (for example, duties to third parties) the authors are careful to avoid losing the reader amid conflicting views within the literature. In the *Tarasoff* discussion, the author provides both a U.S. map and a narrative of state-by-state variation. The authors cover ethics organically within the discussions.

*Psychiatry and the Law* is intended neither as a comprehensive work on forensic psychiatry nor as a practical guide to carrying out the work of the forensic psychiatrist. Those approaches can be found in works of Rosner and Scott<sup>2</sup> and Gold and Frierson,<sup>3</sup> respectively. De-emphasis of a how-to approach here was smartly intended, since it would have distracted the reader from Wasser's intention of conveying and illustrating principles. Nevertheless, there is enough material to satisfy early learners and more advanced practitioners. At the end, Wasser lists North American ACGME-accredited fellowship programs, followed by a table of forensic psychiatry "milestones," to track progress of forensic fellows. He also provides resources for professional societies and scholarly journals, not limited to the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law.

Choosing a forensic psychiatry textbook can be challenging. *Psychiatry and the Law* covers many of