

alleged sex abuse “hysteria,” only 21 percent of the allegations were substantiated.²

Cheit notes that the historical denial of child sexual abuse exploiting secrecy, silence, and disbelief are collective mechanisms driving the witch-hunt narrative. He concedes that denial is common, but he is as unsparing as he is thorough in his analysis. His research is comprehensive and the arguments of systematic cover-ups and distortion of the facts in these cases are compelling. The witch-hunt argument was prominent in Nathan and Snedecker’s 1995 *Satan’s Silence: Ritual Abuse and the Making of an American Witch Hunt*,³ a journalistic, not a scholarly, work. The narrative derived its legitimacy from the prominent academic psychologists Maggie Bruck and Richard Ceci. After close examination of interview and trial transcript data, some of it video- and audio-taped, Cheit concludes that Ceci and Bruck systematically obscured compelling evidence of child sexual abuse in several high-profile daycare cases to promote the argument that the children were highly suggestible and not credible witnesses. Ceci and Bruck also dismissed studies conducted by other academics, including Gail Goodman, whose research opened the courts to children’s testimony. The witch-hunt narrative functioned to reverse this trend, and Cheit attempts to rebalance the analysis.

The Kelly Michaels (Wee Care) case is another example of evidence ignored and a campaign to discredit child witnesses. The facts that the first child witness spontaneously disclosed anal penetration at school by Michaels and that Michaels’ directions to keep the touching secret were overlooked during the promulgation of the witch-hunt narrative. After Michaels’ conviction, Ceci and Bruck penned an *amicus* brief ostensibly on behalf of the Committee of Concerned Scientists. The brief, offered as an independent opinion regarding prosecutions in the Wee Care case, was coauthored by Michaels’ defense attorney, Cheit tells us. This revelation belies Ceci and Bruck’s claim of an independent, unbiased scientific voice. Ceci and Bruck, Cheit says, also misled the courts by misrepresenting their argument as consensus within the scientific community. Instead, the witch-hunt narrative emphasized children’s suggestibility and the discrediting of their reports of abuse. The potential harm to children’s safety and well-being is incalculable. Young children become sitting ducks without legal and civil protections from predation. The justice implications and public health impact are dire.

Cheit’s thoroughly researched volume is an important resource for practitioners providing expert witness testimony in child sexual abuse cases. Its length may seem daunting, but the reader may select cases to focus on and review integrative summaries that relate the cases to social and historical contexts. As a bonus, L. Arthi Krishnaswami has fashioned beautiful graphics to help the reader track developments in the cases. We would have hoped for an acknowledgment of lessons learned, including the development of well-researched investigative interviewing protocols. Cheit’s research suggests the need to broaden the definition of scientific misconduct to include use of data to mislead nonscientists, resulting in public harm. Scientific misconduct is generally understood to mean deliberate falsification, manipulation, and suppression of data to obtain funding, publications, and other professional benefits. What Cheit exposes goes beyond differences of opinion as to interpretation of research findings, forcing us to confront our assumptions and face-value acceptance of published literature.

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Julia Curcio-Alexander, PhD
Kenneth J. Weiss, MD
Philadelphia, PA

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Crime Classification Manual: A Standard System for Investigating and Classifying Violent Crimes

By John E. Douglas, Ann W. Burgess, Alan G. Burgess, and Robert K. Ressler. Third Edition. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2013. 566 pp. \$65.00 (paperback).

Not long after I began to work as a forensic psychiatrist, a colleague handed me a copy of the *Crime Classification Manual* (the Manual), then in its first

edition. Since then, there has always been a copy within easy reach on my bookshelf. The Manual not only helps the forensic psychiatrist make better use of the data available from law enforcement including forensic, crime scene, and other evidence, it also provides case examples that illustrate the use of such data in understanding the offender and his motives in committing the crime.

Nothing reflects our state of mind as human beings, our motivation, our attitudes, more than what we do and how we do it. The manual is a guide that takes the reader step by step through the behaviors involved in the commission of different kinds of crime. The individual sitting across the table may have been convicted of killing more than one person; would it not help to know the circumstances? Details such as victim selection, the time frame, the *modus operandi* (i.e., going through the crime as it evolves) can reveal data that border on the dispositive, depending on the question posed in a given forensic consultation. At the very least, it starts one thinking that when it comes to serious crime, one size does not fit all.

Not everyone reading the Manual has first- or even second-hand experience with criminal investigation, much less with crime scene analysis. Not everyone knows the difference between a serial killer and a spree killer (p 16). Even the most experienced of readers might have trouble sorting through the overlapping features of crime scene staging (p 31), personation (p 30), and signature (p 24) before reading the first four chapters of Part I. These four chapters lay the foundation and are written in jargon-free language that facilitates understanding. Beginners will get a thorough grounding on how criminal investigators gather and analyze data and how they reach their conclusions. Forensic psychiatrists familiar with the basics will be brought up to date, especially in areas that have drawn attention only recently. In the case vignettes—psychological and motivational—even psychiatric indicators are integrated with other forensic data in a useful way.

Part II (Chapters 6–17) takes the reader through the classifications. The chapters (as in Parts I and III) contain multiple vignettes and case examples to help demonstrate key points. The case-based approach gives the text an almost clinical feel. Familiarity with the classifications, in my practice, raises questions or considerations that might not have otherwise occurred to me. The classifications provide clues about

what to listen for when considering various forensic or clinical facets of both pre- and postadjudication individuals and even when working with psychiatric patients with a history of serious criminal behavior and incarceration.

The classifications are particularly helpful in a practical sense. When interviewing an individual convicted of a sexual assault on an adult for example, would it not be helpful to know whether the crime was a rape committed during the commission of another crime (secondary felony rape), such as burglary; whether rape was the focus of the crime; whether the rape was motivated by a desire to prove the offender's sexual competence and manhood, as in "power reassurance rape" (p 335); or whether the crime was primarily an expression of anger as in "anger rape" (p 342) or hatred based on gender or race? In dealing with the perpetrator of a rape in which the victim's injuries are particularly extensive and severe, noting whether the crime scene and forensic and other indicators suggest that the injuries were inflicted because of rage directed at the victim, on the one hand, or for the purpose of the sadistic gratification of the perpetrator, on the other, might be critical in the formation of a forensic opinion, depending on the context.

Each classification takes us through the defining characteristics of the crime, including the victimology. The offender's characteristics can sometimes function as a starting point in forensic evaluations.

Chapter 14 provides an excellent overview of computer crimes, such as cyberstalking; crimes against children, including solicitation of children on the Internet; and child pornography. Chapter 15 focuses on the increasing globalization of crime and deals with topics that range from human trafficking, terrorism, and hostage-taking to aerial hijackings. An entire chapter is dedicated to the use of poison and biological agents as weapons, an area with which few forensic psychiatrists have much experience.

Finally, Part III (Chapters 18 and 19) deals with points related to the law (interviewing and interrogation techniques and the problem of false confessions) in a careful and balanced manner. The discussion on interviewing and interrogation is aimed at eliciting expressly valid confessions, while warning of factors that can increase an individual's vulnerability to interrogation procedures. The chapter examines how knowledge of the evidence, the crime classification, and data derived from witness interviews and other

forensic evidence can be used to aid an interviewer in more clearly understanding the defendant and in eliciting valid responses to questions. Chapter 19, regarding false confessions, provides a useful review of the literature and experience in this area. Although Chapter 18 takes a clearly pro–death-penalty stance in places, the overall balance points to a desire to avoid false confessions in the first place.

Chapter 5 stands apart from the other chapters in the Manual in that it examines a highly controversial topic: the development and use of measures of depravity. Questions raised by this material are far from settled. This chapter could easily be read (or misread) as an attempt to add an aura of scientific quantification to what amounts to the normal visceral reactions elicited by the facts of many heinous crimes, especially those in which the death penalty is considered during sentencing. The section was absent from the first and second editions; I'm not sure what it adds to the third.

Angela M. Hegarty, MD
North Great River, NY

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Landmark Cases in Forensic Psychiatry

By Elizabeth Ford and Merrill Rotter. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014. 240 pp. \$39.95.

Drawing from their experience in forensic psychiatry, Elizabeth Ford and Merrill Rotter have compiled *Landmark Cases in Forensic Psychiatry*. With the purpose of training others in topics related to mental health and law, they designed their book “with forensic psychiatry and psychology trainees and practicing clinicians in mind” (p xxi). They add that this book is intended to fill a gap in the study of landmark cases included in the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) examinations in forensic psychiatry.

The American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL) has long maintained a list of more than 100 legal cases that represent the scope of the specialty of forensic psychiatry. These cases are commonly introduced during forensic psychiatry fellowship training and may be a source of questions for forensic examinations. In 2013, The ABPN published a content

outline for the certification examination in forensic psychiatry.¹ Drs. Ford and Rotter have provided case summaries for all of the cases identified in the ABPN outline. They selected and summarized additional legal cases that they identified as important in facilitating understanding of particular mental health concepts.

The book is organized into five broad sections: “Mental Health Practice Guidelines,” “Institutional Treatment Guidelines,” “Child and Adolescent Issues,” “Tort Law,” and “Criminal Law and Incarceration.” Each section includes several independent chapters related to the broad topics, but with a more narrowed focus. For example, the first section on “Mental Health Practice Guidelines” is divided into chapters on “Confidentiality and Privilege,” “Informed Consent,” “Duty to Protect,” and “Expert Testimony.” Although each chapter is organized by cases in chronological order based on the court’s decision date, each case, chapter, or section can be read in any particular order.

Each case summary includes the title and legal citation for the case. For some of the summarized cases, an abbreviated case title is used. The case citations do not directly identify the court that issued the opinion, and so the reader must be familiar with the reporter in which the case is recorded. With each case is a link referring the reader to a free online source to access the full case opinion. All of the case summaries include a yes-or-no question aimed at the main holding of the case. Each case has a one- to two-paragraph synopsis of the majority opinion. The synopses include, in varying degrees, information about the procedural history of the case, relevant facts, previous rules of law relevant to the topic, and the court’s rationale in support of the identified case holding.

The strength of the text lies in its usefulness in testing the reader’s understanding of the landmark forensic cases. The case summaries are brief and address the main points of the legal decisions. At the end of each section are several multiple-choice questions with discussions of the correct answers. Some of the answers provide definitions for basic legal terms or comment on how the legal case relates to other cases. The questions help to illustrate some of the most important points in the cases.

A criticism of the book is that it does not identify which cases have been overturned, superseded, or modified by subsequent law. Although the editors state in the introduction that some cases “have been