

Book Reviews

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES—LAW AND PRACTICE. By L Gostin. London: Shaw & Sons, Ltd., 1986. Approx. 1,000 pp. (loose-leaf; not paginated). \$135.00.

Reviewed by William H. Reid, MD,
MPH

This is an extraordinary compendium, loose-leaf for future additions, of the interface of psychiatric care and treatment with the law in England. It includes a detailed description of the structure of British mental health services (including the organization of the National Health Service), procedures for hospitalization and guardianship, procedures related to treatment and discharge, patient rights, and procedures and issues related to criminal proceedings. There are five appendices, which review the specific statutes, circulars, forms and records, and the like. The work is organized by section and subsection, for easy access to each topic.

The text is surprisingly readable and in many ways is a translation for the practitioner of such things as the Mental Health Act of 1982.

Although not a required text for the North American psychiatrist, it is a

rather complete introduction to psychiatric and mental health practices in England. I should think it would be in every major medical and social service library on that side of the Atlantic.

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION BY HEALTH CARE AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS, 2nd Edition. By JT Smith and SB Bisbing. Potomac, MD: Legal Medicine Press, 1988. 331 pp. No price available.

Reviewed by William H. Reid, MD,
MPH

This is a manual which contains photocopies of legal citations related to sexual exploitation by healthcare and other professionals. There is a brief introduction by the authors followed by a somewhat unusual "appendix" which appears to be taken from overheads or slides used in lecturing.

This book is put together in a "patchwork" style with photocopies which are sometimes difficult to read. Nevertheless, this allows more rapid publication, and more up-to-date citations. The book would appear to be more useful to attorneys than forensic psychiatrists.

A MODEL RESIDENTIAL JUVENILE SEX-OFFENDER TREATMENT PROGRAM. By JW Heinz, S Gargaro, and KG Kelley. Syracuse, NY: Safer Society Press (NY State Council of Churches), 1987. 135 pp. \$23.00.

Reviewed by William H. Reid, MD,
MPH

This is a description of a Minnesota residential treatment program which is part of a growing number of treatment facilities for serious juvenile and adolescent sex offenders. The approach is primarily nonmedical, and focuses upon therapeutic relationship, personal sexual victimization, group living, and social skills as well as the sexual deviance itself. Statistics in the appendices provide interesting demographic information about the residents.

HUMAN SEXUAL AGGRESSION: CURRENT PERSPECTIVES (Vol. 528, ANNALS OF THE NY ACADEMY OF SCIENCES). Edited by RA Prentky and VL Quinsey. New York: New York Academy of Sciences, 1988. 410 pp. \$122.00.

Reviewed by William H. Reid, MD,
MPH

This is a collection of papers presented at a 1987 New York Academy of Sciences meeting. The titles and contributors run the gamut of psychological and

typological issues, social and cross-cultural issues, biological issues, treatment and prevention, victim issues, and social policy. The authors range from psychiatrists such as Fred Berlin and John M.W. Bradford to other scientists (including social scientists). It is an excellent series of papers, which nevertheless suffers from many of the problems of "proceedings" volumes.

DRUGS IN LITIGATION: DAMAGE AWARDS INVOLVING PRESCRIPTION AND NONPRESCRIPTION DRUGS (1988 Edition). Edited by RM Patterson. Charlottesville, VA: The Michie Co., 1988. 790 pp. Price not available.

Reviewed by William H. Reid, MD,
MPH

This is the latest edition of a book which reports damage awards involving prescription and nonprescription drugs. It is compiled by the editorial staff of the publishers of *Lawyers' Medical Cyclopedia*. It is well-indexed, by drug and topic, and includes a table of cases and a few references. Each case has a two or three paragraph summary. Although most of the drugs listed are not psychiatric, it is an interesting reference to have around the office.

THERAPEUTICS FOR AGGRESSION: PSYCHOLOGICAL/PHYSI-

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CAL CRISIS INTERVENTION. By M Thackrey. New York: Human Sciences Press, 1987. 227 pp. No price available.

Reviewed by Kirby Turner, MD

This book was written to introduce the clinician to the theory and management of patient aggression. The book is well-written, organized, and practical.

I would highly recommend this work to all forensic neuropsychiatric physicians, especially those who may have an increased probability of being the object of aggression secondary to their particular work environment or examinee population.

This book would also be of didactic value for teaching law enforcement and other nonmedical personnel about the nonlethal management of aggression.

THE PAINFUL FIELD: THE PSYCHIATRIC DIMENSION OF MODERN WAR. By RA Gabriel. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1988. 189 pp. \$39.95.

Reviewed by Kirby Turner, MD

Mr. Gabriel, a political science professor at Anselor College, wrote this book to debunk the mythology about a warrior's psychological reaction to war.

The book gives a brief history of war and madness, then examines the U.S. and Soviet armies' psychological experiences with World War I and World War II. Finally, Mr. Gabriel hypothe-

sizes how the soldier will psychologically respond to World War III.

This book will appeal to certain classes of people with circumscribed interests, but its use is limited for the forensic neuropsychiatric physician.

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS: EVALUATION AND TREATMENT OF SEXUALLY ABUSED CHILDREN AND ADULT SURVIVORS, Vol. I. Edited by SM Sgroi. Lexington, MA: D.C. Heath and Co., 1988. 315 pp. \$39.95.

Reviewed by Tom Stapleton, MD

This book presents a series of well-focused essays on topics in the area of evaluation and treatment of sexually abused children and adult survivors. The essays generally are well-done in the style of psychotherapy-based research. There are abundant pieces of clinical material to flesh out the principles being espoused by the authors. The material presented by each of the authors consists of practices which they have developed in their own clinical experience and which may certainly be useful to the reader. There is no statistical research reported in this book, and the information reported is all of the variety seen in clinical case reporting rather than in more rigorous research.

This volume would be helpful to anyone wishing to increase his or her familiarity with the issues involved in the

treatment of sexually abused children. The book functions well as a report on the status of current practice within this portion of the psychotherapy community.

POST-TRAUMATIC THERAPY AND VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE (Brunner/Mazel Psychosocial Stress Series No. 11). Edited by FM Ochberg. New York: Brunner/Mazel, 1988. xiv + 370 pp. \$40.00.

Reviewed by Justin O. Schechter, MD

This text is the eleventh in a series of books designed to cover the broad areas of stress, trauma, and victimization. In this volume, Dr. Ochberg has gathered together a distinguished group of contributors to cover four broad topics relating to victimology and posttraumatic therapy. The sections include: principles of posttraumatic therapy; the victim of violent crime; the victim of war and atrocity; and the crime victims' movement. The text is addressed primarily to help clinicians treat victims of violence.

Despite their similarity, the chapters are consistently well-organized and edited, minimizing repetition and overlap. Each topic is first carefully reviewed from an historical perspective after which case studies are provided. It is these case vignettes that reveal the richness of the text. Often painful to read, these case examples convey the difficulties and rewards in dealing with the post-traumatic victim. Practical therapy and

management techniques are also given in each section. The compendia of references are priceless.

Although many texts deal with post-traumatic stress disorders, the reader will find different or newer topics covered in this book. Dr. Roth provides a general review of the use of medication in post-traumatic therapy. Dr. Mollica's discussion on the treatment of the refugee in his Indochinese psychiatry clinic highlights the importance of having a cultural perspective regarding trauma. Dr. Young's elaboration of support services for victims carefully outlines the stages and influence of the legal process on the victim.

It is uncommon to find a text which is enjoyable to read, informative, and clinically useful. Ochberg has put together such a combination.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND LEGAL CONCERNS IN MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE. By J Rinas and S Clyne-Jackson. E. Norwalk, CT: Appleton and Lange, 1988. x + 230 pp. \$29.95.

Reviewed by Richard Rogers, PhD

This volume, by two Canadian psychologists, is too ambitious in its goals. The authors attempt to address ethical and legal problems across mental health disciplines (psychiatry, psychology, social work, occupational therapy, and nursing) for both American and Canadian

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readers. Although highly readable, the book is unable to offer sufficient information for a particular mental health discipline in a particular jurisdiction. Indeed, it may leave unsophisticated mental health professionals with improper conclusions regarding the ethical and legal parameters of their own practice. Most of the professional references are to the psychological literature, and many of the legal citations address standards in Illinois and Ontario.

Attitudes and bias are implicit in the discussions. For example, the single fact that electroconvulsive therapy has been performed on more women than men is used as an example of sexism; this use of frequency data is highly suspect. The

authors' view of forensic practice is generally negative. Hospitals are seen as places of poor care and frequent abuse of patient rights.

The book is often inaccurate. The "duty to warn doctrine," for example, is inappropriately applied to calling the police for an alcoholic driver. It is asserted that clinicians have a duty to inform patients of any lack of privilege in their jurisdiction and that all forensic patients have the right to have a lawyer present. Tarasoff I is discussed without any mention of Tarasoff II or Tarasoff III. Individuals with paraphilias are equated with sociopaths. Although the book contains some valuable information, I cannot recommend it to practitioners.

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