

seems most inclined to emphasize institutional review committees of heterogeneous composition.

Overall, the report appeared to be a very good summary of the issues and the relevant literature, done by sensitive and concerned people. It was a little moralistic (I have to confess that it usually arouses some negative feelings when people tell me I "should" do something) but not to an offensive point. The report should be useful to an ordinary doctor, but because of its length and detail should be seen as more relevant to an ethics committee member, to an attorney who might have to handle a case involving these issues, or to someone who is a student of moral philosophy. For the active practicing physician, an abstract of the critical points would be easier to assimilate and more useful. ☐

PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND EXPERT TESTIMONY: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO FORENSIC WORK. By David L. Shapiro, PhD. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1983. 256 pp. \$12.95.

Reviewed by Richard Rogers, PhD

This book was designed as a basic handbook of forensic evaluations and is geared to primarily those inexperienced in conducting such evaluations. Material is presented in a concise and highly readable format, examining both criminal (that is, competence to stand trial and criminal responsibility) as well as civil (for example, child custody and personal injury) forensic evaluations. It outlines legal and clinical issues in conducting these evaluations and provides a wide selection of case vignettes to illustrate or underscore the parameters of such assessments.

This book is especially helpful in its presentation of material on how to be an effective expert witness, offering an excellent discussion of how to foresee and respond to commonly employed cross-examination techniques. In addition, chapters on family law and treatment issues distinguish themselves with their helpful distillation of key forensic issues. Partly as a result of its introductory approach to a diverse range of forensic evaluations, several important forensic issues are given only cursory attention. This is particularly notable in the discussions of malingering, amnesia, and neuropsychological testing for which the overviews do not provide sufficient information for the beginning practitioner. In summary, *Psychological Evaluation and Expert Testimony* achieves much of its purpose in providing a concise and lucid description of forensic evaluations. I strongly recommend this book for the inexperienced forensic clinician. ☐