

cive power. Not surprisingly, given the title, incapacity, along with irrationality, appears at numerous points in the book. The arguments of Summers and Sinnott-Armstrong are not taken up by others, however, which is a shame. Their analysis goes to the heart of what it is that justifies coercing some people who have mental disorders and not others.

A defendant's ability to reason in the abstract about right and wrong becomes less important to our ascriptions of responsibility as we learn more about his ability to reason about the particular act in which he engaged. The reasons are complicated. Chandra Sripada argues persuasively that it is always the reasons in relation to the particular act that interest us. She acknowledges that there are times when we do use a person's ability to complete successfully a broader range of mental tasks as evidence of his ability to reason in relation to the criminal act. But, she argues, we use such evidence only in the absence of anything better and allow it to be "superseded" (p 121) when evidence of reasoning in relation to the particular act becomes available.

The volume has been well produced by Routledge and the index is good. The pairings of philosopher with clinician frequently produce more than the sum of their parts. The editors are to be commended for showing that, even if it is all about food and sex, there may be some other interesting diversions along the way.

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Forensic Psychiatry: Essential Board Review

By Helen Mavourneen Farrell, MD. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press, 2015. 192 pp. \$69.95 paperback.

In *Forensic Psychiatry: Essential Board Review*, Helen Farrell, MD has created a succinct and practical nuts-and-bolts board review supplement that warrants a look from those who intend to sit for the forensic psychiatry board examination. In her introduction, Farrell makes it clear that the impetus for her writing *Forensic Psychiatry: Essential Board Review* was her desire for a "concise and efficient study aid" to "com-

plement the detailed information provided within the numerous forensic psychiatry textbooks" (p ix), as well as the AAPL Forensic Psychiatry Review Course. Toward that end, I believe that the book has succeeded and fills a gap that has been lacking.

Intended for rapid review and rote memorization, as well as self-assessment, the book is the first of its kind and was developed primarily for forensic psychiatrists, although time may show its utility in introducing others to the field of forensic psychiatry. The text is divided into four sections. Section 1 is a brief primer on how to register and prepare for the forensic psychiatry board examination itself. The section contains some information that I had not found elsewhere, not even during the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL) Forensic Psychiatry Review Course. Therefore, it may serve to relax those who are studying by themselves and are without the benefit of a study companion against whom to gauge their study progress.

Section 2 comprises an extremely brief (11 pages) presentation of high-yield notes on forensic psychiatry. Needless to say, those sitting for the board examination will need additional study material, and that was the author's intention. However, given the brevity of this section, one wonders why perhaps these 11 pages were not omitted completely and used for other purposes, such as for sample board questions.

Section 3 consists of approximately 50 pages summarizing landmark cases in the field of forensic psychiatry, most of which are represented on AAPL's Landmark Cases list. As would be expected, readers will find that the 105 cases covered in this book have considerable overlap with the 120 cases covered in *Landmark Cases in Forensic Psychiatry* by Elizabeth Ford and Merrill Rotter. Cases are summarized succinctly, with a statement of the legal issue, a summary of the facts, and the holding.

Section 4 is probably the most unique and useful portion of the book, as it contains 129 board-style questions. It is unfortunate that these questions are not numbered for ease of use. Nevertheless, they appear to focus on high-yield topics and provide a question bank of forensic psychiatry material that is, to my knowledge, not offered anywhere else. Those taking the forensic psychiatry board examination would be wise to purchase this book for the material in Section 4 alone.

Books and Media

In summary, *Forensic Psychiatry: Essential Board Review* offers a concise and succinct supplement to augment a prudent test taker's study plan. It is not a stand-alone review course, but then it does not purport to be one. It satisfies a previously unmet need, and, a few typographical errors aside, it is certainly

worth considering as an aid for those preparing for the forensic psychiatry board examination.

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