

Part 3 examines the specific interactions of the legal system with mental health. It begins with a description of the criminal justice system found in England and Wales. Chapter 65 is especially informative as it discusses specific sentencing for mentally ill offenders with easy-to-follow tables. There is a later discussion on specific defenses applicable for mentally ill offenders, with Chapter 70 describing the history and implementation of the “not guilty by insanity” plea.

Part 4 details the clinical assessment process in forensics, with Chapters 89 and 90 covering risk and violence assessments. These assessments are applicable to other fields in psychiatry by providing objective tools to help create risk management plans. Parts 4 and 5 discuss the clinical responsibilities of forensic psychiatrists. These responsibilities include writing a medico-legal report, being an expert witness, and presenting formally in court. Each step is carefully discussed in layman’s terms, which provides insight into the process for those unfamiliar. For example, Chapter 93 provides guidelines and considerations for report writing as well as examples that help reinforce the language and content expected in medicolegal documents.

Part 6 reviews treatment modalities within a level of care discussion. This part again discusses risk assessments while highlighting the U.K. level of care model for forensic populations. This part also includes discussions on managing severe personality disorders in a hospital and community setting. The discussions of specific therapy modalities (e.g., cognitive behavioral therapy, dialectical behavior therapy, psychodynamic psychotherapy, family therapy, etc.) provide a unique perspective on how these therapies are used within the forensic population. Part 7 continues the discussion of levels of care by addressing the U.K. prison system and the prevalence of mental illness within it. This part highlights unique aspects of correctional psychiatry, such as the treatment of women and those less abled in the prison setting. This part’s most captivating chapter is a case example of HMP Grendon, an English prison that has become a novel personality disorder treatment center.

Part 8 covers the victims of violence, including torture, with a chapter dedicated to PTSD that encompasses prior discussions on the topic. Part 9 dives into the interplay of civil law and forensic psychiatry with thought provoking discussions on abortion and euthanasia. These topics are highly relevant in our current sociopolitical landscape. The discussion on abortion is particularly informative and encourages a conversation regarding the mental health impacts related to abortion.

Part 10 provides an overview of general ethics considerations, such as consent, confidentiality, and duty to warn. The duty to warn chapter is enlightening as it details the unique and contrasting legal obligations psychiatrists in the United States and United Kingdom face when deciding to report potential threats from patients. Finally, Part 11 concludes the text with a brief comparison of mental health laws found in other English-speaking countries.

*Forensic Psychiatry* captures the essence of the field and its practice in one accessible text. One possible drawback of providing such sheer depth of information is that chapters may become disjointed at times with few clear transitions between chapters within each part. The text partially mitigates this concern with repeatedly presenting key topics throughout the text to provide a sense of cohesion through building on prior discussions. Ultimately, this text is a reliable reference and guide to exploring the world of forensic psychiatry for all levels of training and expertise.

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## ***The Roots of Modern Psychology and Law***

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Reviewed by Stephen L. Weiner, MD

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**Key words:** psycholegal history; forensic psychology; correctional psychology

*The Roots of Modern Psychology and Law* is a collection of stories about the rise of psychology and law in post-war America. Psychologists Thomas Grisso and Stanley L. Brodsky, who served as editors of the collection, expertly arranged the stories into a simple but compelling format. They gave twelve psychology and law luminaries one chapter each to tell their version of events, discussing where they were when these two fields began to interact in the modern era and the role they played in bringing the fields together.

The result is an engaging 221-page narrative history in which each chapter author gives a first-person account of how their career influenced, and was influenced by, the psychology and law movement. Chapter authors explain the rise of subfields, including jury research, therapeutic jurisprudence, and predictions of violence, with candor and simplicity.

Drs. Grisso and Stanley made another interesting editorial choice. They arranged the chapters by subject instead of chronology. The first six chapters cover psychological science and the law (eyewitness testimony, civil commitment, mental health law), while the last six are more practice-based (correctional psychology, psycholegal capacity, community psychology).

Broadly speaking, the advent of the American Psychology and Law Society (AP-LS) in 1971 serves as a launch point for each author's account. The stories then march on into the present day. In this way, the same historical period is described in each of the twelve chapters. The result of this approach depends on the reader. For those familiar with the history of modern psychology and law, the chapters will feel like victory laps. Novices will appreciate the repetition of names, dates, and key events.

Dr. Grisso authors the first chapter, titled "The Evolution of Psychology and Law." In an academic, third-person voice that distinguishes it from the rest of the book, Dr. Grisso recounts the history of how these two fields merged. He starts in the late 1890s with the birth of legal psychology, presses on through the dormant period (1930-1960), and arrives in the modern era (1960s onward). It is an excellent historical primer for the following twelve chapters. In fact, it is almost too good; if this book were a history of modern psychology and law, Dr. Grisso reveals the whole plot before the book begins.

But it isn't a history book in the traditional sense. Since this book is a narrative history, the what and when matter only in the context of who and why. And in this collection, the chapter authors supply richly detailed answers to those who and why questions. We learn about friendships, marriages, and *eureka* moments. We learn the root of *eureka* itself, and we learn about the diligence those moments of discovery required.

Dr. Elizabeth Loftus, the chapter author on eyewitness testimony, "lived and breathed" semantic memory after finishing her PhD at Stanford (p 33). "But," she writes, "I wanted to do research that had more obvious social relevance" (p 33). She considered her latent "personal interest in legal cases" and resolved

to study the memory of witnesses to crimes (p 33). Not long after, she secured funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation to study accident witnesses. This led to another *eureka* moment. Leading questions, she discovered, could "contaminate memory" (p 34). After she published her findings in a 1974 *Psychology Today* article, "... my phone was ringing off the hook ... I began to consult on legal cases and to appear in courtrooms as an expert witness..." (p 35).

We also learn about historical, systemic injustice in American mental health care. Sadly, decades of dogma that minimized patients' rights cemented the barriers to progress sought by each author. In "Correctional Psychology," Dr. Brodsky describes his early encounters with locked facilities. "I was alone on the 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM shift prior to the days of psychotropic drugs ... Every hour, as instructed, I pulled out my ring of skeleton keys ... and ran a key along the bottom of the bare feet of patients to see if they were alive" (p 179).

Change was slow to come. Five years after Judge Frank M. Johnson of the Middle District of Alabama found correctional facilities of Alabama to be "constitutionally barbaric" in 1971, Dr. Brodsky's attempts to address correctional psychology were met with "an openly hostile and resistant prison system" (p 186).

One author reveals his own brush with the legal system and how it shaped his career. In "Forensic Mental Health Services and Competence to Stand Trial," Dr. Ronald Roesch writes about the time he broke into a golf course and stole golf clubs. The judge considered Roesch's academic record and lack of prior offenses and sentenced the 19-year-old to probation. "Here," Dr. Roesch writes, "was an example of diversion before diversion was common ... Judge Gooding's diversion decision set me on a career path in psychology and law in which I have tried to create similar opportunities for others..." (p 128).

If the founding of the AP-LS in 1974 acts as the book's historical anchor, then Ken Kesey's *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* in 1962 and the concurrent wave of social justice movements serve as its moral anchor. Indeed, the desire to create a more equitable future is echoed throughout the book. For example, in "Applying Social Psychology to the Law and the Legal Process," Dr. Michael J. Saks writes, "I was eager to deploy psychology's discovered phenomena, theories, and research methods in the service of helping to make the world better through psychology" (p 46).

As an example of that deployment, Dr. Saks describes a legal case in which key evidence hinged on the analysis of a “handwriting examiner” (p 52). While working on the case, he discovered that there was no evidence to suggest one could be an expert at identifying handwriting in the first place. To wit, Dr. Saks helped reveal “the larger problem of a forensic science that had no science and no data undergirding it ...” (p 52). He cites the advent of DNA typing, and *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*, 509 U.S. 579 (1993), which raised the barrier of admissibility of expert evidence from consensus within a field to demonstrated validity, as key developments in the scientific reformation of forensic science. The scholarly momentum that drove such developments was due in no small part to researchers like Dr. Saks and the rest of the chapter authors.

In sum, *The Roots of Modern Psychology and Law* offers a novel approach to modern psycholegal history. It situates the reader in many contexts (social, moral, personal) without sacrificing readability. It is erudite but also heartfelt. It makes a powerful case for the narrative history model, and it is a must-read for those interested in the sample intersection of psychology and law.

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## **Tiger King: When the Fascination Fades, What Can We Learn from Joe Exotic et al?**

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Reviewed by Chandler Hicks, DO and Cathleen Cerny-Suelzer, MD

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**Key words:** cyberbully; toxic masculinity; murder for hire

Directed by Eric Goode and Rebecca Chaiklin and released March 20, 2020, on Netflix, the seven-part series *Tiger King* details the niche community of big cat collectors and conservationists by focusing on four individuals: Joe Exotic, Carole Baskin, Bhagavan “Doc” Antle, and Jeff Lowe. The notoriety of the show led to many proposed spin-offs, including the

planned CBS adaptation starring Nicolas Cage as Joe Exotic. Why did *Tiger King* capture the fascination of a nation in lockdown? In addition to its colorful personalities, perhaps it is the extreme measures big cat enthusiasts will take to protect their livelihood, including stalking, cyberbullying, and murder for hire. *Tiger King* is toxic masculinity in tiger’s stripes.

The titular star of the series is the Tiger King himself, Joe Maldonado-Passage (née Schreibvogel), aka Joe Exotic. Mr. Exotic is the former owner of G.W. Zoo in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, which at one point housed over 227 big cats and 50 species of animals. Joe captures the audience with his polarizing personality. Dressed in flamboyant sequined button-ups, Joe is not your typical conservative Oklahoman. He is a homosexual, polygamist, former presidential and gubernatorial candidate who uses his grandiose persona to blur the lines between reality and absurdism. Known for breeding big cats and hosting cub petting events, Joe draws the attention of animal rights activists, who view his activities as animal exploitation.

One of Joe’s harshest critics is Carole Baskin, owner of Big Cat Rescue in Tampa Bay, Florida. Dressed in leopard print and flower crowns, Carole draws in viewers with her unassuming yet superficial kindness and the dark mystery of her second husband’s disappearance. Did Carole Baskin kill her husband and feed him to her tigers? We may never know, but a spirited debate about it rages online. While Carole and Joe denigrate each other, viewers are introduced to a third, equally enticing big cat collector, Bhagavan “Doc” Antle, owner of Myrtle Beach Safari. When he is not wrangling exotic animals for the likes of Britney Spears, Doc is using big cats to lure young women to his “harem” where they take care of the animals’ needs and allegedly, some of Doc’s other needs. Finally, there is the would-be-savior of G.W. Zoo, biker-jacket-loving, alleged ex-wife abuser Jeff Lowe. Mr. Lowe makes no apologies for living life to the fullest or for wanting an attractive nanny for his newborn. His involvement with the zoo leads to Joe Exotic’s eventual undoing on many levels. Most significantly, Mr. Lowe helps bring to light Joe’s plan to have Carole Baskin murdered.

Viewers watch as Carole wages a war against Joe’s breeding and cub petting activities through her social media platforms. He responds as a quintessential internet troll by using his own web series to increasingly cyberbully Carole, leaving a trail of hate that helped bring about his eventual demise. Joe’s efforts to bully Carole include verbal threats of violence, music