

RANDOM VIOLENCE

**How
We**

**Talk About
New
Crimes
and New
Victims**

J O E L B E S T

Random Violence How We Talk About New Crimes And New Victims

Jennifer L. Dunn



Random Violence How We Talk About New Crimes And New Victims:

Random Violence Joel Best, 1999-03-02 *Random Violence* is a deft and thought provoking exploration of the ways we talk about and why we worry about new crimes and new forms of victimization Focusing on so called random crimes such as freeway shootings gang violence hate crimes stalking and wilding Joel Best shows how new crime problems emerge and how some quickly fade from public attention while others spread and become enduring subjects of concern Best s original and incisive argument illuminates the fact that while these crimes are in actuality neither new nor epidemic nor random the language used to describe them nonetheless shapes both private fears and public policies Best scrutinizes the melodramatic quality of the American public s attitudes toward crime exposing the cultural context for the popularity of random violence as a catch all phrase to describe contemporary crime and the fallacious belief that violence is steadily rising He points out that the age race and sex of homicide victims reveal that violence is highly patterned Best also details the contemporary ideology of victimization as well as the social arrangements that create and support a victim industry that can label large numbers of victims He demonstrates why it has become commonplace to declare war on social problems including drugs crime poverty and cancer and outlines the complementary influence of media activists officials and experts in institutionalizing crime problems Intrinsic to all these concerns is the way in which policy choices and outcomes are affected by the language used to describe social problems

Crime and the Media Sarah E.H. Moore, 2017-09-16 From video games that allow us to participate in Mafia style violence to newspaper reports about the latest terrorist atrocity from detective novels that fill our bedside cabinets to Hollywood s beloved legal dramas the mass media is saturated with stories about crime justice and disorder Together they create a cultural landscape of crime that is distinctly at odds with reality as criminologists are apt to complain *Crime and the Media* attempts to make sense of this cultural landscape and its relationship with broader social trends and public attitudes Through focussed critical discussions about crime in the media taking on crime news and fictional representations of cops courts and corrections the text equips students with an understanding of the key theoretical concepts and methodological tools that are required to undertake media analysis With questions for discussion exercises and workshop sessions as well as techniques for analysing crime in a range of media formats the book makes an invaluable contribution to crime and media courses and to the social sciences in general

Collective Morality and Crime in the Americas Christopher Birkbeck, 2013 This book examines the nature of collective morality as it materializes in public commentary about crime in the Americas and identifies the ways in which the moral community is talked into being and how the imagined moral universe is mapped

Courting Disaster, intimate Stalking, Culture, and Criminal Justice Jennifer L. Dunn, *Crime and Criminal Justice in American Society* Randall G. Shelden, William B. Brown, Karen S. Miller, Randal B. Fritzler, 2015-06-22 Today s headlines vividly illustrate the importance of understanding aspects of the criminal justice system too often ignored While the second edition of *Crime and Criminal Justice in American Society* includes

the most recent statistics on the police courts and corrections its provocative current examples also spur critical thinking about justice in the United States The authors offer an alternative interpretation of criminal justice rarely presented in traditional textbooks or by the media They encourage readers to examine their beliefs about crime punishment and the law Discussions in the chapters about how African Americans Hispanics whites women juveniles the rich and the poor experience crime and the criminal justice system contribute context for understanding different viewpoints The poor and minorities are the most likely to be caught in the net of criminal justice but inequities have consequences for everyone Reflection on various perspectives provides helpful input for assessing attitudes and for becoming actively involved with issues that have significant consequences Eighteen thoroughly revised chapters present historical backgrounds theories and emerging issues New to the second edition is a chapter on veterans involved in the criminal justice system Affordable succinct and engaging this textbook presents the key concepts of the criminal justice system at less than half the cost of many competing textbooks

The New Punitiveness John Pratt,David Brown,Mark Brown,Simon Hallsworth,Wayne Morrison,2013-06-17 Throughout much of the western world more and more people are being sent to prison one of a number of changes inspired by a new punitiveness in penal and political affairs This book seeks to understand these developments bringing together leading authorities in the field to provide a wide ranging analysis of new penal trends compare the development of differing patterns of punishment across different types of societies and to provide a range of theoretical analyses and commentaries to help understand their significance As well as increases in imprisonment this book is also concerned to address a number of other aspects of the new punitiveness firstly the return of a number of forms of punishment previously thought extinct or inappropriate such as the return of shaming punishments and chain gangs in parts of the USA and secondly the increasing public involvement in penal affairs and penal development for example in relation to length of sentences and the California Three Strikes Law and a growing accreditation of the rights of victims The book will be essential reading for students seeking to understand trends and theories of punishment on law criminology penology and other courses

Handbook of Constructionist Research James A. Holstein,Jaber F. Gubrium,2013-10-21 Constructionism has become one of the most popular research approaches in the social sciences But until now little attention has been given to the conceptual and methodological underpinnings of the constructionist stance and the remarkable diversity within the field This cutting edge handbook brings together a dazzling array of scholars to review the foundations of constructionist research how it is put into practice in multiple disciplines and where it may be headed in the future The volume critically examines the analytic frameworks strategies of inquiry and methodological choices that together form the mosaic of contemporary constructionism making it an authoritative reference for anyone interested in conducting research in a constructionist vein

When Crime Waves Vincent Sacco,2005-05-11 Despite its wide usage the concept of the crime wave has rarely been given explicit and detailed attention by criminologists It is important that we understand where they come from how they develop and what

their consequences are When Crime Waves offers an in depth exploration of a large number of social issues involved in the study of crime waves Issues such as how and why crime rates change over time why some types of crime and not others come in waves and the role played by the mass media politicians and interest group leaders in the promotion of crime waves are discussed to help students develop analytical skills and apply them to real world situations Key Features Critically examines the phenomenon of crime waves in an engaging fashion Provides multiple perspectives via historical and contemporary examples throughout the book Delves into the role played by politicians and the media in creating the perception that a crime wave has occurred Presents themes of myth making cultural imagery and social constructionism When Crime Waves is intended to be a supplementary text for undergraduate criminology and sociology courses including Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice Crime when and where crimes occur and what contributes to the views on crime held by the police lawmakers and members of the general public

Permission to Shoot? Jyoti Belur, 2010-09-27 Extrajudicial executions have blighted parts of the world for generations but criminological coverage has been superficial and selective in that it has concentrated on South America giving the impression that this is a problem specific to that part of the world and associated with military rule dictatorial regimes and colonial heritage Permission to Shoot Police Use of Deadly Force in Democracies brings a new dimension to the problem of police abuse of deadly force by concentrating on India and the United States both large democracies and vibrant superpowers In the book the research is based on primary sources interviews with police officers of varying ranks those who are involved in the killings those who facilitate such operations and those who are mute spectators The book deals with universal fundamental themes such as what makes ordinary decent human beings do horrible things What motivational techniques and justifications are used to override social norms governing moral conduct centring on the sector of society mandated to use deadly force against civilians Why in a democratic country the abuse of police powers appears to be overtly and tacitly encouraged Permission to Shoot seeks to provide broad guidelines and recommendations for reforms in policing policy and practice in developing countries The research peels back the lies and deceit that surround this issue but more than that it shows how those lies and deceit act to support the practice itself

The Dark Side of the Ivory Tower John J. Sloan III, Bonnie S. Fisher, 2010-09-30 A cursory reading of the history of US colleges and universities reveals that campus crime has been part of collegiate life since the Colonial Era yet it was not until the late 1980s that it suddenly became an issue on the public stage Drawing from numerous mass media and scholarly sources and using a theoretical framework grounded in social constructionism this text chronicles how four groups of activists college student advocates feminists victims and their families and public health experts used a variety of tactics and strategies to convince the public that campus crime posed a new danger to the safety and security of college students and the ivory tower itself while simultaneously convincing policymakers to take action against the problem Readers from a range of disciplinary interests will find the book both compelling and valuable to understanding campus crime as a newly

constructed social reality

Ignite the flame of optimism with is motivational masterpiece, Find Positivity in **Random Violence How We Talk About New Crimes And New Victims** . In a downloadable PDF format (*), this ebook is a beacon of encouragement. Download now and let the words propel you towards a brighter, more motivated tomorrow.

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