

# Myths And Realities Of Crime And Justice: What Every American Should Know

By Steven E. Barkan, George J. Bryjak



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An Engaging and Accessible Overview of Crime and Justice in America For all their interest in crime, most Americans know very little about the reality of crime and the criminal justice system in the United States? and most of what Americans do know is a loose collection of accumulated truths, half-truths, and outright fallacies. Myths and Realities of Crime and Justice: What Every American Should Know, Second Edition provides a concise but thorough overview of criminal behavior, crime, and the criminal justice system in the United States. Using up-to-date social science research to debunk many of the beliefs Americans hold about crime, the book examines key topics such as serial killers and mass murders, gun violence, criminal victimization, identity theft, policing and police corruption, plea bargaining, jury nullification, wrongful convictions, the death penalty, and the "CSI Effect." The fully revised and updated second edition of this popular text includes the most recent crime and criminal justice data, and covers several recent high-profile crimes, including the Newtown shooting, the Jerry Sandusky case, and the Trayvon Martin case. It also includes new sections on recent trends in crime rates, street gangs, and hate crimes. Ideally suited for students in criminal justice programs as well as professionals who work within or in tandem with the criminal justice system, Myths and Realities of Crime and Justice: What Every American Should Know, Second Edition is a thorough, engaging, and highly relevant portrait of crime and justice in America.



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## **Editorial Review**

About the Author

Steven E. Barkan is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Maine, where he has taught Introduction to Sociology and many other courses since 1979. His teaching and research interests include criminology, research methods, sociology of law, and social movements. Among his professional activities, he has served as a member of the Advisory Board of the American Sociological Association's Honors Program and the Board of Directors of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. He has served as the chair of SSSP's Law and Society Division and as an advisory editor of its journal, Social Problems. His previous books include: CRIMINOLOGY: A SOCIOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING (third edition); FUNDAMENTALS OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE (with George Bryjak); COLLECTIVE VIOLENCE (with Lynne Snowden); and PROTESTORS ON TRIAL: CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN THE SOUTHERN CIVIL RIGHTS AND VIETNAM ANTIWAR MOVEMENTS. Professor Barkan has also written numerous journal articles dealing with topics such as death penalty attitudes, political trials, feminist activism, and race and political participation, which have appeared in the American Sociological Review, Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, Social Forces, Social Problems, Sociological Forum, Sociological Inquiry, Race and Society, and other journals.

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## **Patrick Vanmeter:**

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book could be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the reserve untitled Myths And Realities Of Crime And Justice: What Every American Should Know can be very good book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

## **Helen Johnson:**

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