Emotions, Crime and Justice

Edited by
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and
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Oñati International Series in Law and Society

A SERIES PUBLISHED FOR THE OÑATI INSTITUTE
FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

OXFORD AND PORTLAND, OREGON
2011
Oñati International Series in Law and Society

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EMOTIONS, CRIME AND JUSTICE

The return of emotions to debates about crime and criminal justice has been a striking development of recent decades across many jurisdictions. This has been registered in the return of shame to justice procedures, a heightened focus on victims and their emotional needs, fear of crime as a major preoccupation of citizens and politicians, and highly emotionalised public discourses on crime and justice. But how can we best make sense of these developments? Do we need to create 'emotionally intelligent' justice systems, or are we messing recklessly with the rational foundations of liberal criminal justice?

This volume brings together leading criminologists and sociologists from across the world in a much needed conversation about how to re-calibrate reason and emotion in crime and justice today. The contributions range from the micro-analysis of emotions in violent encounters, to the paradoxes and tensions that arise from the emotionalisation of criminal justice in the public sphere. They explore the emotional labour of workers in police and penal institutions, the justice experiences of victims and offenders, and the role of vengeance, forgiveness and regret in the aftermath of violence and conflict resolution. The result is a set of original essays which offer a fresh and timely perspective on problems of crime and justice in contemporary liberal democracies.
Australian National University's Regulatory Institutions Network at the time of writing this chapter. Her research integrates psychological theory with regulatory theory, arguing that effective regulation depends on being responsive to individuals' needs, values and behaviours. Her major research interest centres around procedural justice in the contexts of law enforcement, environment, taxation, and social security.

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Wesley G. Skogan holds joint appointments with the Political Science Department at Northwestern University and the University’s Institute for Policy Research. His most recent books report on his empirical studies of community policing initiatives in Chicago and elsewhere. He is also the author of two lengthy reports in the Home Office Research Series examining citizen contact and satisfaction with policing in Britain and co-edited a policy-oriented report from the National Research Council in Washington, DC: Fairness and Effectiveness in Policing: The Evidence. Professor Skogan’s second line of research concerns neighborhood and community responses to crime, including fear of crime, the impact of crime on neighborhood life and crime prevention efforts by community organisations. He has also been involved in research on criminal victimisation and the evaluation of service programmes for victims.

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