



Demystifying Crime and Criminal Justice

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Demystifying Crime and Criminal Justice addresses many of the American public's misconceptions about crime and criminal justice. Many of these inaccurate conclusions are based on myths, and each of this anthology's twenty-seven articles demystifies or debunks one of these current myths.

The book traces a logical progression through the criminal justice process: Part One addresses myths about crime; Part Two examines myths about law enforcement; Part Three investigates myths about the administration of justice; and Part Four analyzes myths about punishment and corrections. Each chapter opens with a brief introductory section, followed by a "Kernel of Truth" section, which identifies the often credible aspects of many myths. In a third section, "The Truth or Facts," the authors present persuasive evidence that illuminates these misconceptions. "Interests Served by the Myth" follows, providing an examination of how the interests of specific individuals or groups are strengthened by the creation and perpetuation of these myths. Finally, "Policy Implications of Belief in the Myth" highlights some of the practical and often undesirable consequences of these falsehoods.

Written in clear, accessible language, this text engages readers with straightforward analysis and cuttingedge research. Designed to stimulate critical thinking and classroom discussion, this anthology will provide students with a deeper understanding of crime and criminal justice.



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