



## Handbook of Forensic Sociology and Psychology

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The role of behavioral and social sciences in the courtroom setting has expanded exponentially in the past few decades. It is now widely recognized that scientists in these areas provide critical contextual information for legal decision making, and that there is a reliable knowledge base for doing so. While there are many handbooks of forensic psychology, this is the first such volume to incorporate sociological findings, broadening the conceptual basis for examining cases in both the civil and criminal realms, including immigration issues, personal injury, child custody, and sexual harassment.

This volume will examine the responsibilities of expert witnesses and consultants, and how they may utilize principles, theories and methods from both sociology and psychology. It will show these disciplines together can improve the identification and apprehension of criminals, as well as enhance the administration of justice by clarifying profiles of criminal behavior, particularly in cases of serial killers, death threat makers, stalkers, and kidnappers. The volume is quite comprehensive, covering a range of medical, school, environmental and business settings. Throughout it links basic ideas to real applications and their impact on the justice system.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

From the reviews:

“The handbook ‘analyzes the principles, theories, and methods of both forensic sociology and psychology and their use in the justice system.’ … The language and style are clear and make the book easy to understand, and examples of the sociological and psychological environment of forensics are straightforward. This work is for those involved in the study, teaching, or practice of forensics, criminology, psychology, sociology, law, and related disciplines. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals.” (G. A. Collins, *Choice*, Vol. 51 (7), March, 2014)

Stephen J. Morewitz, lecturer in the CSUEB Department of Nursing and Health Sciences, won the San Jose State University Annual Author Awards 2013 for co-editing the *Handbook of Forensic Sociology and Psychology* (New York: Springer, 2013) with Mark L. Goldstein, Ph.D.

The *Handbook of Forensic Sociology and Psychology* is a landmark publication that offers a detailed and comprehensive road map for sociologists and psychologists to apply theory and research methods as expert witnesses and consultants in the fields of civil, criminal, immigration, and military law. The *Handbook* also demonstrates to attorneys, law firms, and the general public the different ways in which sociological and psychological concepts, theories, and methods can be best utilized in litigation.

Morewitz is the author of more than 100 publications, including the award-winning book, *Stalking and Violence* (New York: Kluwer/Plenum, 2003), the award-winning book, *Domestic Violence and Maternal and Child Health* (New York: Springer, 2004), *Chronic Disorders in Children and Adolescents* (New York: Springer, 2011), *Chronic Diseases and Health Care* (New York, Springer, 2006), and *Aging and Chronic Disorders* (New York, Springer 2008) with Mark L. Goldstein. Prior to teaching at CSUEB, he was professor and Research Dean at the California School of Podiatric Medicine, CA, and has been on the faculty or staffs of Michael Reese Hospital, University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Medicine, Department of Family Practice, and School of Public Health, DePaul University, and Argonne National Laboratory. Congrats, Dr. Morewitz! --Kimberly Legocki

From the Back Cover

Since their emergence as social sciences, psychology and sociology have found a natural home in the justice system. And while the term *forensics* often translates into *CSI* scenarios in the public imagination, the bulk of the work takes place in the courtroom, where lawyers, judges, and jurors rely on psychology and sociology experts for aid in decision making.

The *Handbook of Forensic Sociology and Psychology* offers comprehensive, straightforward coverage of the impact of social science on the spectrum of civil and criminal legal issues. This unique reference guides readers through the work of professionals in both fields as expert witnesses, as consultants before and during trials, and in critiquing legal and law enforcement procedure. Offering expert insights into the making and breaking of laws, contributors analyze forensic psychology and sociology theories and methods used in areas as diverse as immigration, divorce and family, product liability, and employment and education related

litigation. A range of evaluative procedures, from custody to competency, child abuse to the death penalty, is examined as well. Other topics featured in the *Handbook* include:

- The problem of interrogation-induced false confession.
- The role of the gang expert in court.
- Gender analysis in military court-martials.
- Sociological theory and methods in suicide litigation.
- Psychosocial theories about anger and their relevance in litigation.
- Neuropsychological testing standards and ethics.

The *Handbook of Forensic Sociology and Psychology* opens out this increasingly important field for criminologists, and gives researchers in forensic psychology and sociology clear insights into challenges and opportunities facing these fields.

#### About the Author

**Dr. Stephen J. Morewitz** is President of the forensic sociology consulting firm, STEPHEN J. MOREWITZ, Ph.D., & ASSOCIATES, Buffalo Grove, IL, San Francisco & Tarzana, CA. Founded in 1988, his firm consults in civil, criminal, and immigration court litigation. He is a Lecturer in the Department of Nursing and Health Sciences at California State University, East Bay, and is a Lecturer in the Sociology Department at San Jose State University. Dr. Morewitz has been on the faculty or staffs of Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center, University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Medicine and School of Public Health, DePaul University, Argonne National Laboratory, and the California School of Podiatric Medicine. Dr. Morewitz is the author or co-author of eight books and over 100 other publications, including the award-winning book, *Domestic Violence and Maternal and Child Health* (New York: Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers/Springer Science+Business Media, LLC, 2004), the award-winning book, *Stalking and Violence. New Patterns of Trauma and Obsession* (New York: Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers/Springer Science+Business Media, LLC, 2003), *Death Threats and Violence. New Research and Clinical Perspectives* (New York: Springer Science+Business Media, LLC, 2008), and *Sexual Harassment and Social Change in American Society* (Bethesda, MD: Austin & Winfield, Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group, 1996). He is past Chair of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) Law and Society Division and the SSSP Crime and Delinquency Division and has served on a variety of SSSP committees. He was elected to Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society, and to Pi Gamma Mu, the International Honor Society in Social Sciences. Dr. Morewitz earned his A.B. and M.A. from The College of William & Mary in Virginia and his Ph.D. from The University of Chicago.

**Mark L. Goldstein, Ph.D.** is a licensed clinical psychologist in Illinois. He has conducted over 1100 child custody evaluations and presented at numerous national and international conferences on child custody topics. Dr. Goldstein is the co-author of 3 books, including *Chronic Disorders in Children and Adolescents*. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Florida and has served on the faculty of the University of Illinois, College of Medicine, Roosevelt University, the Illinois School of Professional Psychology, and the Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

#### Users Review

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**Jason Faria:**

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