



Offender Supervision: New Directions in Theory, Research and Practice

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This major new book brings together leading researchers in the field in order to describe and analyse internationally significant theoretical and empirical work on offender supervision, and to address the policy and practice implications of this work within and across jurisdictions. Arising out of the work of the international Collaboration of Researchers for the Effective Development of Offender Supervision (CREDOS), this book examines questions and issues that have arisen both within effectiveness research, and from research on desistance from offending. The book draws out the lessons that can be learned not just about 'what works?', but about how and why particular practices support desistance in specific jurisdictional, cultural and local contexts.

Key themes addressed in this book include:

- New directions in theory and paradigms for practice
- Staff skills and effective offender supervision
- Different issues and challenges in improving offender supervision
- The role of families, 'significant others' and social networks
- Understanding and supporting compliance within supervision
- Exploring the social, political, organisational and historical contexts of offender supervision

Offender Supervision will be essential reading for academics, undergraduate and postgraduate students, policy makers, managers and practitioners interested in offender supervision.

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Editorial Review

Review

'After a period in the doldrums, the subject of offender supervision has recently burst into life, and is receiving significant attention from both policymakers and researchers. This important and up-to-the-minute collection of essays by some of the leading scholars in the field will be much used and cited, combining as it does sophisticated theoretical reflections, fresh empirical evidence and careful attention to specific topics such as staff skills and offender compliance. Highly recommended.'

– Professor Sir Anthony Bottoms, Universities of Cambridge and Sheffield

'For anyone with an interest in offender supervision – whether as an academic, policy maker or practitioner – this book is absolutely essential reading. It marks a watershed in the development of research and scholarship in this field, offering an unparalleled collection of cutting-edge essays on the key issues. It will become an indispensable point of reference for many years to come.'

– Professor Mike Hough, Kings College London, and President of the British Society of Criminology

'This is a hugely welcome addition to the literature on work with offenders, bringing together international scholars who have developed key new ideas such as the 'desistance' and 'good lives' perspectives. Collectively, they offer the intellectual basis for moving correctional practice beyond the original 'what works' agenda, to a new and more effective focus on individual relationships, trust and legitimacy.'

– Professor Mike Maguire, Cardiff University and University of Glamorgan

'Criminal justice systems across Europe (and far beyond) face major social, political and financial challenges at this time – and developing the credibility and effectiveness of offender supervision in the community lies at the heart of finding constructive ways forward. For these reasons, this collection could not be more timely; it will be of great value to the many policy-makers, managers and practitioners working hard to improve offender supervision, deliver community justice and make communities safer.'

– Leo Tigges, Secretary General, CEP (The European Probation Organisation)

'In this exciting, ambitious and significant new book the authors bring together a wide range of contributions from eminent researchers, practitioners and academics on the subject of contemporary developments in offender supervision.

This is an enormously rich and rewarding book which addresses a wide range of aspects of offender supervision... Students of offender supervision, academics, practitioners and researchers will all find this a hugely stimulating and encouraging book. ... It is the moral quality and authenticity of the book, appearing as it also does at an important moment for offender supervision, which make the book indispensable.'

– Keith Davies, Principal Lecturer, School of Social Work, Kingston University, UK in European Journal of Probation

'...[A] comprehensive, readable and well-informed collection of essays.'

'...[For] anyone concerned with the supervision of offenders and wider issues of offender management and effective practice, the book offers a strong introduction to the key concepts and perspectives as well as many policy and practice insights. I would recommend the book to academics, criminal justice managers and practitioners.'

-Jane Dominey, De Montfort University, in the British Journal of Community Justice, vol 9

'...it is impossible to do justice to all the fine pieces of research collected here...'

-Barry Vaughan, Policy Analyst, National Economic and Social Council, Dublin, in the Irish Probation Journal, vol 8 Oct 2011

'Offender Supervision therefore is attractive to a widespread audience because essentially the book engages with the wider influences on desistance and public protection and seeks to explore what probation supervision actually is all about and comes up with the answer that it remains an integral part of the struggle towards the classic goal clarification between monitoring offenders and facilitating behavioural change.'

'It is perhaps rare that a single volume dealing with criminological matters manages to succeed in presenting ideas and concepts that are of practical appeal to practitioners, managers and policy makers alike but such is breadth and depth of Offender Supervision that it actually achieves that rarity status.'

-Neil Stone, Wales Probation Trust, in EuroVista Journal vol 2 issue 1 2012

'This is a beautifully written, detailed and sensitive ethnography of an unfashionable corner of the prison estate in England and Wales.'

-Professor Anne Worrall, University of Keele, 2013.

About the Author

Fergus McNeill is Professor of Criminology & Social Work at the Glasgow School of Social Work, a joint initiative of the Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde, and Network Leader at the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research at the University of Glasgow. He is co-author of Reducing Reoffending: Social Work and Community Justice in Scotland, published by Willan.

Peter Raynor, PhD is Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Swansea University, and has authored several books on social work and criminal justice.

Dr Trotter worked for almost 20 years as a social worker and a regional manager in child protection and corrections prior to his appointment to Monash University in 1991.

Users Review

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