

Edited by
GRAHAM M. DAVIES
ANTHONY R. BEECH
MELISSA F. COLLOFF

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

CRIME, JUSTICE, LAW, INTERVENTIONS

FOURTH EDITION



with website


WILEY Blackwell

Forensic Psychology

Forensic Psychology: Crime, Justice, Law, Interventions

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ANTHONY R. BEECH
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For our partners and children for their continuing support as we toiled to bring this textbook together, and to our readers who, we hope, will be inspired to join the next generation of practitioners and researchers in forensic psychology.

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Preface to Fourth Edition

The scope and ambition of *Forensic Psychology: Crime, Justice, Law, Interventions* has increased over successive editions, reflecting the continuing growth in interest in forensic psychology, both as an undergraduate option and as an advanced course at postgraduate level. While many of our readers will come to the discipline via a conventional psychology degree, we recognise that others will have backgrounds in policing, social work or criminology and we have sought to cater for this wider readership by encouraging an accessible style from our contributors. As in earlier editions, our principal focus is on research reflecting the British and European systems of justice, but the rather different traditions of the United States are also acknowledged and reflected in the choice of North American authors and co-authors for some chapters.

Graham Davies and Anthony Beech continue as editors of this fourth edition, but have been fortunate to recruit Melissa Colloff as a new co-editor. Dr Colloff has already distinguished herself as an outstanding scholar in legal psychology and brings a breadth of knowledge and freshness of approach that can only benefit our readers. A number of authors have been retained for this new edition, although their chapters have been thoroughly revised and in some instances new contributors have been brought in to augment the team. In addition, new areas of research have been acknowledged through stand-alone chapters dealing with (a) police investigation and decision-making, (b) criminal responsibility and the insanity defence and (c) how the twin goals of modifying risk factors and building strengths among inmates can be achieved. For the text to remain a usable size, the inclusion of these new topics has meant some attenuation or merging of topics: eyewitness testimony and identification, treated separately in previous editions, have become a single, longer chapter. We have continued our policy of teaming established authors with younger researchers, who bring with them enthusiasm and knowledge of the needs of today's students.

The structure of the text retains an introductory chapter by the editors, providing an overview of the history of forensic psychology, both in relation to the courts and the treatment of offenders, and taking in recent developments in training and career paths for forensic psychologists. Part 1 covers the *Causes of Crime* from a range of different but complementary perspectives, while Part 2 is devoted to *Investigating Crime* and the actual and potential role psychological research can play in assisting the police in their enquiries. Part 3 looks at the *Trial Process* from the standpoint of court officials and the witnesses who give evidence. Part 4 considers the challenge of *Dealing with Offenders*, with separate treatments of important groups, including those with intellectual disabilities and mental health issues. In Part 5, *Emerging Issues, Future Challenges*, leading-edge researchers in legal and criminological psychology discuss what they see as key issues for the discipline in the next decade.

The book's dedicated website has also been thoroughly updated, with additional student quiz questions and links to forensic sites of particular interest to psychology students. Instructors and lecturers can also access PowerPoint presentations covering each of the chapters to augment their lectures. All the main chapters retain the popular "Case Studies" feature, where theory blends with practice, together with topics for essays and discussions, plus an annotated reading list.

Once again, it is our pleasure to acknowledge the help and assistance of our authors in ensuring that the manuscript was completed on time and who have dealt tolerantly with our many queries. Jake Opie, Assistant Editor for Psychology at Wiley, facilitated and encouraged our wish to undertake a fourth edition. Bhavya Boopathi and her team saw the book through the production process, and Rajith Kumar oversaw the illustrations. We are indebted to Dr Amy Burrell for compiling the quiz questions and to Tia Bennett who ensured that all references were compliant with the latest edicts of the American Psychological Association, including doi's. As ever, we hope that students and teachers alike will find this new edition a readable, comprehensive, and up-to-date guide to the growing world of forensic psychology.

Graham M. Davies, Anthony R. Beech and Melissa F. Colloff

About the Editors

Graham M. Davies is Professor Emeritus of Psychology at the University of Leicester and an Honorary Professor of Forensic Psychology at the University of Birmingham. His forensic interests focus on the testimony of children and adults and the support of vulnerable witnesses at court, on which topics he has published some ten books and over 150 articles in scientific journals. He led the writing team responsible for the original version of *Achieving Best Evidence*—the standard guidance on interviewing vulnerable victims and witnesses in the English and Welsh courts—and has considerable experience as an expert witness in court cases where the testimony of children or other vulnerable witnesses are a focus of concern. He is a Fellow of the British Psychological Society and the Association for Psychological Science and a former President of the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition and of the European Association for Psychology and Law. He is the founding editor of the journal *Applied Cognitive Psychology* and served as a Magistrate on the Loughborough, Melton, Belvoir and Rutland bench.

Anthony R. Beech is a Professor Emeritus based at the University of Birmingham, UK. He also holds honorary professorships at the University of Kent and UCLan Cyprus. He has authored over 200 peer-reviewed articles, more than 70 book chapters and 12 books in the area of forensic science and criminal justice. He is a Fellow of both the British Psychological Society and the Association for the Prevention and Treatment of Sexual Abuse (ATSA). In 2009 he received the annual Significant Achievement Award from ATSA and the Senior Award from the Division of Forensic Psychology, British Psychological Society, for his work in the field of abuse prevention. His particular areas of research interest include risk assessment, understanding the neurobiological bases of offending, reducing online exploitation of children and increasing psychotherapeutic effectiveness of the treatment given to offenders.

Melissa F. Colloff is an Associate Professor in Forensic Psychology at the University of Birmingham, UK. Her broad area of expertise is applied cognitive psychology, with a focus on forensic applications, including examining the efficacy of witness identification and interviewing procedures. Melissa conducts theoretically driven science research and then seeks to apply this work through applied research, including collaborations with key policing and government agencies. She has authored over 30 peer-reviewed articles in high impact general psychology journals, including *Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences*, *Psychological Science* and *Psychological Review*, and leading specialist journals, such as *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition* and *Law and Human Behavior*. She also leads an ongoing award-winning programme of public engagement to communicate science to non-specialist audiences. In 2021, Melissa was awarded the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition J. Don Read Early Career Award, which recognizes the outstanding contributions of emerging scholars in applied memory and cognition, and an Association for Psychological Science Rising Star Award.

About the Companion Website

<http://www.wiley.com/go/davies4e>



There is a range of resource materials especially developed for the fourth edition of *Forensic Psychology: Crime, Justice, Law, Interventions* for use by students and instructors, providing for all your course lecturing and testing needs. These include:

- Interactive short-answer tests for use by students (a popular feature)
- Glossary
- PowerPoint slides of all the figures, tables and boxes from the book
- PowerPoint slides for instructors, complete with text headings as well as diagrams, designed to highlight key points in each chapter

Theory and Practice in Forensic Psychology¹



**GRAHAM M. DAVIES, ANTHONY R. BEECH, AND
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¹ The authors gratefully acknowledge the previous contribution of Professor Clive Hollin to the section on Criminological Psychology.

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