

1966

Books Noted

Western Reserve Law Review

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Recommended Citation

Western Reserve Law Review, *Books Noted*, 17 W. Rsrv. L. Rev. 1213 (1966)
Available at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/caselrev/vol17/iss4/15>

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BOOKS NOTED

BASIC PROTECTION FOR THE TRAFFIC VICTIM. By Robert E. Keeton and Jeffrey O'Connell. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. 1965. Pp. xv., 624. \$13.50. In recent years, compensation for the traffic victim has become a central theme of discussion in many state legislatures. Attention has been focused upon the inadequacies and ineffectiveness of much of the legislation which currently deals with this problem. *Basic Protection for the Traffic Victim* analyzes the problem and dramatizes the failings of existing legislation. It concludes that at the present time a sizeable number of traffic victims are not compensated for their economic losses. More significantly, the authors suggest a solution to his social travesty in the form of a proposed comprehensive statute designed to correct five deficiencies in the existing system: inadequate compensation; delay in receipt of payment; unfair distribution of benefits and burdens; disproportionate expense of collection; an inducement of exaggerated or fraudulent claims and defenses. The authors urge the adoption of the proposed statute in the hope that it will significantly contribute to the elimination of a serious social inadequacy.

THE LAW IN MEDICAL PRACTICE. By Sidney Shindell. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press. 1966. Pp. 297. \$6.50. The application of the law to the field of medicine has been the source of much discussion. Currently, the subject of prime concern is the use of patients as medical research tools without informing the patient or obtaining his consent. This matter has recently been before the New York courts and is one of the topics treated by Dr. Shindell, who has degrees in both medicine and law. The discussion takes into consideration various points of view, including the physician-patient contract, existing social values, religion, and ethics. In addition, Dr. Shindell discusses the legal status of the physician in society, the doctor's role as an expert witness, and medical malpractice. The book also contains a mock trial and a medical moot court case.

SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF LAW AND JUSTICE. By Julius Stone. Stanford: Stanford University Press. 1966. Pp. xxxv, 933, \$18.50. This is the final volume of a trilogy dealing with modern jurisprudence. The first book, *Legal System and Lawyers' Reasonings* (1964), treated the question of whether a legal order can be formally presented and the reasoning involved in legal processes. The second book in the series, *Human Law and Human Justice* (1965), dealt with values and standards utilized in determining the "judgment of justice." The concluding volume, *Social Dimensions of Law and Justice*, deals with social conflicts and pressures and the resulting social action. In this third book, Professor Stone discusses the problems presented when law is utilized by modern democratic governments to achieve social control and the evasive objective, justice. The study is centered around Western democratic politics, although corresponding problems in other cultures are also included in the work.

WESTERN RESERVE LAW REVIEW

Volume 17

June 1966

Number 5

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*Published five times a year
by students of The School of Law of Western Reserve University*

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