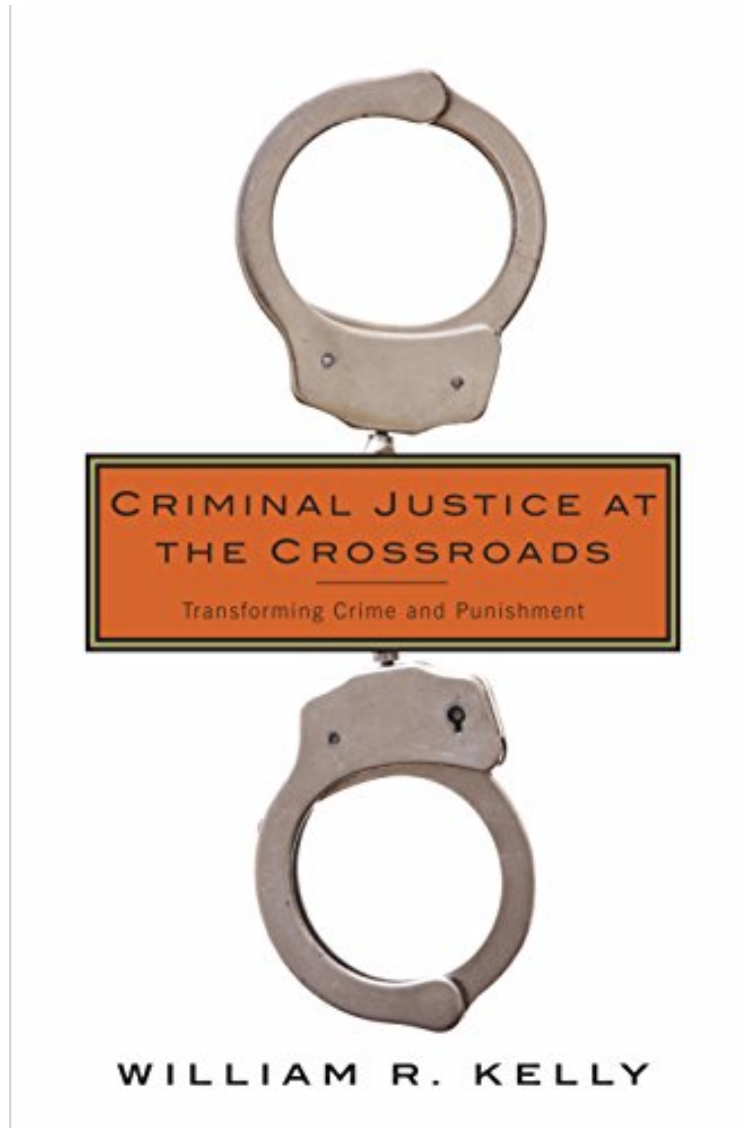


(Free) Criminal Justice at the Crossroads: Transforming Crime and Punishment

Criminal Justice at the Crossroads: Transforming Crime and Punishment

William Kelly

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William Kelly : Criminal Justice at the Crossroads: Transforming Crime and Punishment before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Criminal Justice at the Crossroads: Transforming Crime and Punishment:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Blueprint for Criminal Justice Reform By douggersmith Finally - a research-based book that answers countless questions about why our criminal justice policies yield such terrible outcomes. Dr. Kelly provides tangible solutions for improving the system, solutions that are based in research, will lower crime and recidivism rates, and help us to end mass incarceration in this country. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Ending Mass Incarceration By Gene Guerrero Very useful discussion of how America's criminal justice system can be significantly reformed presenting the evidence showing that reforms could end mass incarceration, improve public safety, and better invest scarce public dollars. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent work by Dr. Kelly - a scholar who is well versed in the current system and creative, evidence-based approaches needed to reform a broken system.

Over the past forty years, the criminal justice system in the United States has engaged in a very expensive policy failure, attempting to punish its way to public safety, with dismal results. So-called "tough on crime" policies have not only failed to effectively reduce crime, recidivism, and victimization but also created an incredibly inefficient system that routinely fails the public, taxpayers, crime victims, criminal offenders, their families, and their communities. Strategies that focus on behavior change are much more productive and cost effective for reducing crime than punishment, and in this book, William R. Kelly discusses the policy, process, and funding innovations and priorities that the United States needs to effectively reduce crime, recidivism, victimization, and cost. He recommends proactive, evidence-based interventions to address criminogenic behavior; collaborative decision making from a variety of professions and disciplines; and a focus on innovative alternatives to incarceration, such as problem-solving courts and probation. Students, professionals, and policy makers alike will find in this comprehensive text a bracing discussion of how our criminal justice system became broken and the best strategies by which to fix it.

Kelly has summarized a vast amount of information with great clarity and purpose. Criminal Justice at the Crossroads is well written, balanced in its data presentation and policy prescriptions, and timely. (Joan Petersilia, Stanford Law School) In Criminal Justice at the Crossroads, William Kelly gives us an outstanding account of critical problems in criminal justice and what needs to be done to address them. The book provides an incisive, scholarly, and highly readable account of America's pursuit of public safety and justice and how it has managed to spend more to achieve less. But it goes well beyond identifying problems. Kelly identifies solutions that draw on the best available science and the experience and wisdom of policymakers and practitioners. The book should be required reading for scholars and policymakers and, indeed, for anyone who cares about public safety and justice. (Daniel P. Mears, Mark C. Stafford Professor of Criminology at Florida State University) It is now clear that the nation's forty-year embrace of wild punitive rhetoric and unrestrained incarceration has resulted in a catastrophic policy failure. Kelly not only documents this sobering reality but also, more importantly, urges policymakers to use this moment to choose a different future. With considerable criminological wisdom, he illuminates that the way forward must be evidence-based and balance competing goals, and trumpets a new culture of criminal justice that values positive, practical outcomes over emotional gratification and crass political symbolism. Criminal Justice at the Crossroads should occupy a prominent place on all our bookshelves; it will on mine. (Francis T. Cullen, University of Cincinnati) [A] thorough argument based on evidence and science... Kelly offers a road map for policymakers on providing alternatives to incarceration. (Charles Ealy Austin American-Statesman) Clear, compelling, and highly readable. (Lucas Anderson Los Angeles of Books) A must-read for graduate students, advanced undergraduates, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners interested in mass incarceration, sentencing policy, criminal justice practices, and social services across the criminal justice system. (Jennifer Schwartz Contemporary Sociology) About the Author William R. Kelly is professor in the Department of Sociology and the founding director of the Center for Criminology and Criminal Justice Research at the University of Texas-Austin. He has spent a considerable amount of time in the community consulting with local, state, and federal agencies on criminal justice issues. He has been involved in the development, implementation, and evaluation of dozens of criminal justice programs and policies. This book is a product of his vast understanding of the scientific research regarding what works, as well as his experience developing and evaluating a variety of justice programs and policies.