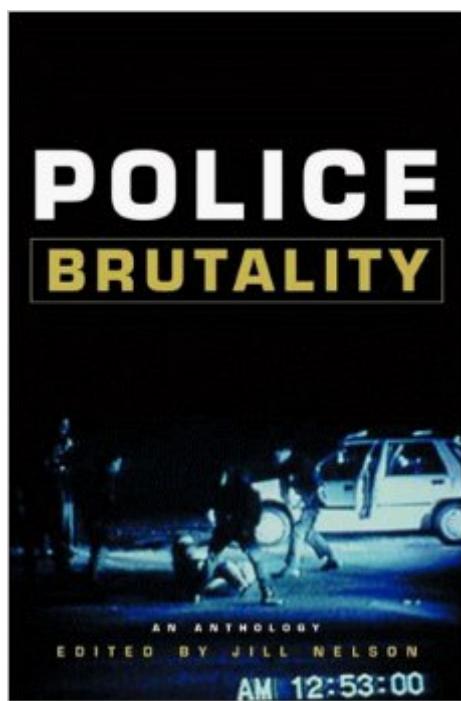


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Police Brutality: An Anthology



Synopsis

From the beating of Rodney King to the shooting by New York City police officers of the unarmed and innocent Amadou Diallo, incidents of police brutality have galvanized and polarized the nation in a way few other contemporary events have. This is a collection of 13 essays - by academics, historians, social critics, a Chicago congressman, and an ex-New York City police detective - placing this centuries-old problem in historical and intellectual context, and underscoring the profound influence police brutality has had in shaping the American identity.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In the wake of such extreme incidents of police brutality in the cases of Amadou Diallo and Abner Louima in New York City, and general heightened awareness of police misconduct nationwide, it is an understatement to simply say that this book is timely. However, beyond being timely, this work provides a brilliant historical overview of police brutality that the more recent victims and protestors need in order to connect them to the larger struggle that individuals like myself have been battling for decades. Along with connecting the young to the old, probably the most powerful element of Nelson's work is how it connects police brutality to the overriding issue of institutionalized racism in America. Not only is this book a must read, it's a must study for anyone concerned with equality for all.

This book is a must read for anyone who cares about the quality of justice in our society. Nelson

and the contributing authors make their case in compelling fashion, and with the undeniable ring of truth. Incisive, well-written, and carefully measured, Nelson has compiled a devastating critique of U.S. police brutality towards blacks, and an equally powerful critique of the white complacency that allows it to happen. This isn't a rant. It is tightly controlled writing, and the collective work of the authors never sacrifices its justifiable dismay for loose indignation. Nelson's contributors also have thoughtful, practical suggestions for pulling ourselves out of this condition. From the introduction: "Essays examine the roots of the police presence in African-American communities from the era of slavery until today, as well as the ways in which race and crime are framed and how the racialization of crime justifies and perpetuates racial brutality." I'd love to see her next book examine the brutalities of the Texas prison system.

Outstanding! People who say this book is one sided must be living on the comfortable side; therefore, they have trouble seeing the truth. I have been out of the police business for several years, and I guess I had sort of fallen into a "read no evil, see no evil" trance. This book, along with *Blue VS Black* by John L. Burris, has given me a jolt back to reality. You can bet I will be doing more reading on this subject! There is police brutality in this country, Folks, and it is more frequent and involves more officers than we want to believe. Even the ones not swinging the sticks or spraying the pepper spray (among the many possibilities) are usually watching or walking away without taking any actions to prevent it. And yes, the brutality is being brought to bear upon Blacks and Hispanics far more frequently than to others. Just spend several years in a police locker room, as I did, and you will come to know the depth of the problem. Not only is racism carried out against people of color on the streets, it is carried out against police officers of color as well. I am the author of *Blackjack* and *Jive-Five*, a book about INTERNAL police racism. I lived the story. I know!

It is an interesting book and the kind of thing I was hoping for. It is neither extremist nor OTOH pulling punches. It is what I think of as realistic and representing the citizen not in a place of power. Sensitive citizen/not simply rolling over when treated badly. And represents the thinking citizen who reads news reports, such as those of Sean Bell & Oscar Grant, of misconduct gone unpunished -- who does not want it to get worse.

This got here faster than the one I ordered from a library. Kudos, yo. It was two days after this came in that I got the rented version, and not only that but now I OWN this book, which means that I can actually sit down and read it after using it for my English Comp II class. The product came in in good

condition, great timing, and a wonderful price, so all in all I'd say it's a win-win-win for the price!

Exceptional author. I truly enjoyed reading this book. It was originally intended to be a research project, but instead I couldn't put it down.

By far this is one of the best books I've read on the subject. The other was called: Driving While Black. But Police Brutality was divided into four parts with twelve chapters each detailing the pernicious practices of police oppression on minorities in America. The police officer is a detriment to the African-American and Hispanic American male. Without a doubt this oppression is exacerbated by the brutal treatment that men of color (And Sometimes Women) experience at their ruthless hands. There is no group in America that can get away with murder (Literally) more than the cop. We see it every day and it is quite detestable. I can honestly say that I loathe the heavy-handed treatment that American cops are always dishing out to people of color. This book examines how police abuse their power. See Patricia J. Williams's chapter (P149) on how her friend was arrested for disobeying a police officer's illegal order to leave an area where she had the right to be. This and other things like the "Blue wall Of Silence" are more examples of how cops lie to protect their own. These and many other situations are detailed in the book. But don't take my word on it. Read it for yourself and be enlightened. A. Nathaniel Wallace, Jr.

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