

RACE AND POLICE BRUTALITY

Roots of an Urban Dilemma
 Malcolm D. Holmes and
 Brad W. Smith

Disputes standard explanations of police brutality against minority citizens to offer new insights and suggestions on dealing with this problem.

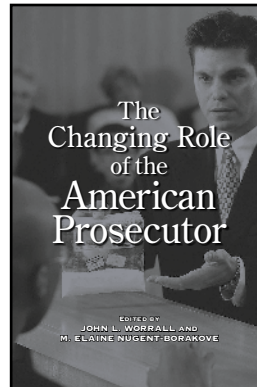
What causes police brutality, and why are minority citizens the primary victims? Social scientists often attribute the behavior to poorly managed police departments, bad cops, or the interests of the powerful in controlling minorities perceived as criminal threats. Malcolm D. Holmes and Brad W. Smith contend that these explanations fail to identify key causes of police misconduct, particularly the use of excessive force. Focusing on the interaction of ordinary social-psychological processes and the disadvantaged conditions of minority neighborhoods, Holmes and Smith develop an integrated model of police brutality that takes into account contemporary theory and research on social identity, stereotypes, and emotions—factors that produce intergroup tensions and may trigger unwarranted acts of aggression. Their approach overcomes existing theoretical difficulties and raises the question of how this complex social problem might be effectively addressed.

“A model of theoretical synthesis, sound and thorough research, and clear writing, this book would be appropriate for courses in police studies, criminology, race, and even research methods.”
 — Norman Weiner, State University of New York at Oswego

Malcolm D. Holmes is Professor of Sociology at the University of Wyoming, and **Brad W. Smith** is Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at Wayne State University.

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 Ronald A. Farrell, editor

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 \$21.95 pb 978-0-7914-7620-8
 \$65.50 hc 978-0-7914-7619-2



THE CHANGING ROLE OF THE AMERICAN PROSECUTOR

John L. Worrall and
 M. Elaine Nugent-Borakove,
 editors

Looks at how prosecution of offenders is evolving in the contemporary legal milieu.

Leading prosecution researchers throughout the United States are brought together in this book to illuminate the new environment of prosecution in America, the prosecution of troubling and emerging crime problems, prosecutorial problem-solving and community prosecution, and the future of prosecution in the twenty-first century. The contributors explore how American prosecutors are moving away from a traditional, reactive approach to the crime problem, and, instead, how prosecutors are developing creative problem-solving strategies for dealing with crime and disorder.

John L. Worrall is Associate Professor of Criminology at the University of Texas at Dallas and the author of many books, including *Crime Control in America: An Assessment of the Evidence*. **M. Elaine Nugent-Borakove** is Director of the Office of Research and Evaluation at the American Prosecutors Research Institute.

OCTOBER
 288 pp • 8 tables, 2 figures
 \$27.95 pb 978-0-7914-7592-8
 \$83.50 hc 978-0-7914-7591-1

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