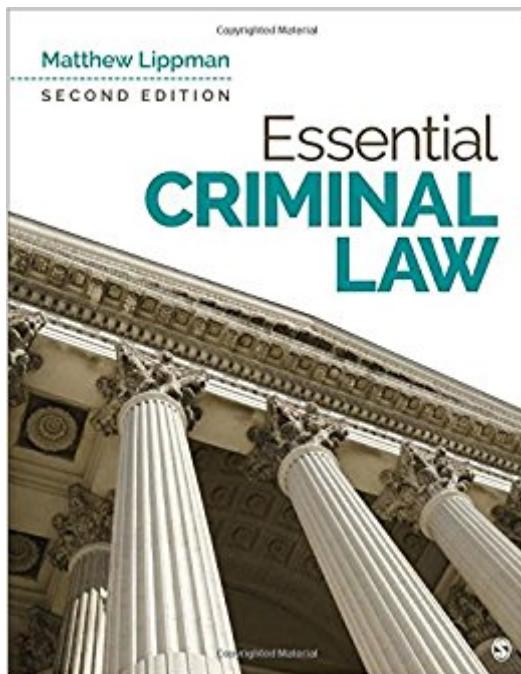


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Essential Criminal Law



Synopsis

Essential Criminal Law, Second EditionÂ Â equips students with a foundational and practical understanding of criminal law in the United States, as well asÂ Â encourages strongÂ Â legal reasoning skillsÂ Â forÂ Â students with no prior exposure to case law. Award-winning professor and bestselling author Matthew Lippman guides students through the complexities of the legal system using thought-provoking examples of real-life crimes and legal defenses, along with highly approachable case analyses. Updated with the most current developments in criminal law and public policy, the Second Edition takes students beyond the classroom and prepares them to apply criminal law in todayÂ¢â ¸s legal world.

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Customer Reviews

..".Helpful equations regarding criminal law."--Stephen A Brundage"This is the best of the criminal law textbooks I have taught from. I think it is more student-centered. So many texts seem designed to impress other professors, but this one makes sense to the students, while not skimping on the material presented."--Brian Cranny"I would, and have, described the book as a nice succinct clearly written text ideal for an introductory course in criminal law. I also say that I highly recommend it for such a course, and tell them that I keep using it. I also praise the support (supplemental) materials that come with it."

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Overall, for a first course in Criminal Law, I think the text is satisfactory. But if I were someone who wanted to go much deeper into the subject, this would not be my starting point. It seems to me the book was poorly researched and contained too many errors for me to ignore. It seems to have been hastily put together and the strategy behind putting it together didn't seem to me very effective. Below I want to provide just a few of the glaring mistakes, many of which that could have been rectified through only one read-over.

Page 23 - Gets the precedent in United States v. Brown wrong

Page 33 - Misquoted the First Amendment

Page 34 - Calls Santeria "Santamaria"

Page 114 - Refers to "Gerald Lee Loughner" instead of "Jared Lee Loughner" (Loughner you may remember was the gunman who shot former Rep. Gabby Giffords in Phoenix, Arizona in 2011).

Page 127 - Complete misrepresentation of the Bernard Goetz case. The juveniles did not politely ask for money as Lippmann claims, they were all armed and primed for an attack. Nor were they juveniles. The attackers were ages 18 to 19 years old.

Page 234 - HSBC was fined \$1.9 billion, not \$1.9 million.

Appendix Chapter 1. footnote 19 - duplicated footnote 18, leaving the reader without any idea of where this piece of information comes from.

One I did not mention, which I thought was a little off-putting, although in many places he refers to the right to free speech, right to jury trial, etc., without quotation marks, one place he mentioned "the right to bear arms" with quotations, which could be taken as a sleight against the second amendment. Since many disagree with the right to bear arms, they will talk about it as being lower than the other amendments and this was just a bit suspicious to me.

Errors like these don't inspire me with much confidence in a writer. These were some of the errors I found just on reading the book only once. There are probably many more that a legal scholar could identify but I'm not one. In addition to these, there were numerous spelling errors, false grammatical constructions, and other similar errors which are too frivolous for me to take down. I don't think I would recommend this book to others.

This book was a requirement for my criminal law class. Book is an easy read and nicely spaced out so the chapters are by no means cumbersome. Worth saving in ones library for future reference.

Good

Took an intro criminal law class and this was the book we used. Did the job but I did not really read it through.

Great

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