

It is through the mass media that most of us hear, see and read about crime in all its manifestations, whether presented as fiction or as fact.

A great deal of this complicated media mosaic is concerned with the commission of crimes and the presentation of violence.

This often leads to claims of media-induced 'moral panics'. Serious claims are also made (and refuted) that such imagery provides, at the very least, a catalyst, stimulating and encouraging violent and criminal behaviour - particularly amongst young people. Indeed, The British Board of Film Classification has recently commissioned the Policy Studies Institute to undertake a study of the viewing habits of at least 200 young offenders aged between 12 and 16 years of age, seeking in particular their views of screen violence.

A key question, and one that has generated much debate but little certainty, concerns causation. What impact might a diet of violent and/or pornographic images have on our behaviour? **Susan Bailey**, of the Gardener Unit in Manchester reveals some results of her recent survey of 40 adolescent murderers. **Simon Carey**, in a more sceptical vein, points to the shortcomings of psychological theory, as well as research, in this contentious field. **Jerry Palmer** cautions us to exercise some critical judgement in our enjoyment of 'clean' violence through fiction, whilst **Cliff Sweeney** and **Tim Pilcher** take up the controversial renaissance of the crime comic, and the art of Japanese Manga, respectively.

We begin, however, with **Jolyon Jenkins** who offers some mordant reflections on current crime reporting in the popular press. **Philip Schlesinger** & **Howard Tumber** provide a timely analysis of the immensely popular BBC TV Series *Crimewatch UK*, and the TV critic, **Victor Lewis-Smith**, comments on the wasted opportunities of certain

## CONTENTS

### CRIME & the MEDIA

The Media and the Course of Justice	Jolyon Jenkins	3
Crimewatch UK	Philip Schlesinger	
	Howard Tumber	4
Fast Forward to Violence	Dr Susan Bailey	6
Mass Media Violence & Aggressive Behaviour	Simon Carey	8
Criminal Use of the Cliché	Victor Lewis-Smith	10
Crime Fiction and the Enjoyment of Violence	Prof. Jerry Palmer	15
Crime Comics: Successors to the Penny Dreadful	Cliff Sweeney	16
The Manga Culture	Tim Pilcher	17
Victims & the Media	Martin Wright	18
Prison Reform & the Media	Stephen Shaw	19
The News of the World April 10th 1870		20
The Media and Prisons: An officer's view	Paul Ivory	21

### ISTD BULLETIN: NEWS & REVIEWS

A Welcome to Andrew Coyle	Julia Braggins	11
Membership Survey: Results	Peter Dalrymple	11
Conference Report: The South West Branch	Gordon Macfarlane	12
VISITS		
YOI Feltham	Martin Prevezer	13
Holloway HMP	Vernon Frost	13
HMP Wormwood Scrubs	Ian Heritage	13
HMP Strangeways	Muriel Hill	13
Annual Dinner	Julia Braggins	14

### COMMENT AND RESOURCES

Letters to the Editor	21
Book Reviews	22
ISTD Publications	23

forms of investigative journalism.

**Martin Wright** reminds us of the sometimes scandalous treatment that some victims of crime receive at the hands of the press. On a different tack, whilst **Stephen Shaw** writes about the task of promoting penal reform via the media, **Paul Ivory** shares some views

about the issues involved in journalistic access to serving prisoners. And finally, we take a quick glimpse at the *News of the World* of April 1870 - back to the future?

We hope you like it.

*Julia Braggins & David Kidd-Hewitt*

*Each issue of CJM focuses on a special area of criminological interest. CJM 12 will consider **Drugs and Crime**. Contributions are welcome, and will be considered for inclusion if sent to Julia Braggins, ISTD, by June 18th 1993.*

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE MATTERS

Number Eleven, Spring 1993. Copyright 1993 ISTD.

Criminal Justice Matters is published by the

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY AND TREATMENT OF DELINQUENCY,

King's College London, Chelsea Campus, Manresa Rd., London SW3 6LX Tel: 071-333-4890 Fax: 071 333 4888

ISTD Director: Julia Braggins; Part-time secretary: Irene Frost

Editorial Board: Julia Braggins (Editor), Yolande Burgin, Francis Charlton, Peter Dalrymple

David Kidd-Hewitt, Paul Kiff, Roger Matthews.

Views expressed in Criminal Justice Matters are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of ISTD.

Design: Baker Tamborini Creative Services. Typesetting: Amberwood Graphics. Printing: Anglebury-Levey.

Special thanks to David Kidd-Hewitt for guest-editing this issue, to Francis Charlton for editorial assistance, and to

Peter Dalrymple for the photography.

ISSN: 0962 7251