

written. Furthermore, if you want a swift snapshot of the chapter or want to know more than what was listed in the Key Points, each chapter has an insightful 'Conclusions' section along with 'Implications for Forensic Applications'. This can easily become your quick go-to guide bridging all the research discussed in each chapter along with evidence-based practice suggestions and future directions.

The chapter on social neuroscience of empathy made some very insightful comments about distinguishing empathy from morality. It was noted that empathy can imply engagement in pro-social behaviours and moral decision-making, while being influenced by 'interpersonal relationships and group membership' (p.162). They also illustrated that despite empathy playing a key role in care-based morality development, 'by no means is morality reducible to empathy and emotion sensitivity' (p.161). All other chapters in Part II follow similar lines of interesting research and approachable writing while discussing a plethora of concepts.

Part III of this volume deals with the 'Neurobiology of Offending' and delves deeper into the underpinnings of psychopathology, Antisocial Personality Disorder, offenders with ASD, violent and sexual offending, brain injury, adolescent offending and alcohol-related aggression. These chapters discuss risk factors, possible predispositions to higher chances of offending, rehabilitation needs and concept-specific in-depth research. The claims made are backed by extensive evidence and show a clear humanitarian approach in dealing with vulnerable groups, such as at-risk youth or individuals with ASD.

The authors make important connections about comorbidities in

a clinical-forensic population and discuss how the interactions of factors such as earlier victimisation, poverty, poor parenting and questionable ability to form intent (in the case of ASD) might lead to debunking the monolith of the 'criminal offender'. One of the highlights in this section was a clear statement that should act as a word of caution for people designing treatment programmes for sexual and violent offending — when you efficiently treat a socially unacceptable behaviour, you also reduce the potency of its socially acceptable counterpart. Specifically, in the case of pharmacological interventions for forensically relevant sexual behaviours, they can alter testosterone to inactive levels and even change serotonin activity. It is important then to weigh out the social benefit costs of these treatments with the price being paid by the individual in focus.

In conclusion, this first volume of the handbook imparts knowledge on various core aspects of forensic neuroscience in clear and comprehensive writing styles which are successful in engaging both the layperson reader and specialised researcher. I strongly recommend it as a well-researched and thorough volume and cannot wait to read and review Volume 2. This handbook is, therefore, an essential text for anyone looking to know the current status of forensic research at the basic, intermediate and advanced level across multiple forensic settings. Something for everyone!

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Classic Book Review

The Lucifer Effect: How Good People Turn Evil

By Phillip Zimbardo

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(paperback)

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Having reviewed over twenty books for the Prison Service Journal, it is without doubt, that that this classic by Phillip Zimbardo was the book I have most eagerly anticipated reading. It allowed me to hark back to my undergraduate days as a Psychology student, where the Stanford Prison Experiment was a staple reference in so many Social Psychology essays. However, my research for essays at the time never delved in to the minutiae of what actually went on over those six fateful days in the summer of 1971. In fact, apart from a few press stories and the occasional research paper the full account has never been published before. However, in this book, Zimbardo has recorded what happened to an excruciating level of detail, and I use that adjective because of the difficult reading it makes to get through those eight chapters that cover less than a week of almost immediate and escalating abuse of power. Indeed, Zimbardo explains in the preface that he found it 'emotionally draining' reviewing the videotapes and other records that helped him construct these chapters in particular.

Zimbardo grew up in a poor Sicilian family in 1930s New York where his prejudicial treatment at the hands of authority figures and experience of crime, elicited an inquisitiveness into other people's behaviour. Having excelled in academia, he accepted a position as Professor of Psychology at Stanford University, where with a grant from the US Office of naval research, he commenced the