

The Forensic Mindset. Behavioural Science in Criminal and Civil Law

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Abstract

The Forensic Mindset: Behavioural Science in Criminal and Civil Law addresses the structural disconnect between behavioral science—grounded in empirical probability, psychological mechanisms, and systemic data—and legal reasoning, which relies on binary categorization, doctrine, and normative judgment.

Moving beyond traditional forensic psychology handbooks that treat science merely as an evidentiary tool, this volume introduces the concept of the Forensic Mindset: a critical, cross-disciplinary analytical framework designed to integrate behavioral findings directly into legal problem-solving. By bridging criminal jurisprudence (e.g., mens rea, witness credibility, risk assessment) and civil litigation (e.g., tortious duty of care, capacity, commercial intent, and institutional decision-making), the text demonstrates how empirical science can refine legal doctrine without undermining legal authority. Written for academic scholars, legal practitioners, and behavioral scientists, this book establishes a dual-disciplinary foundation for evaluating evidence, mitigating cognitive bias in judicial processes, and modernizing legal outcomes.

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