



Criminal Psychology: A Beginner's Guide

Ray Bull , Claire Cooke , Ruth Hatcher , Jessica Woodhams , Charlotte Bilby , Tim Grant

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From the signals which give away we're lying to the psychological profiling of violent offenders, this guide provides an introduction to criminal psychology. It demonstrates how understanding the mind helps us view modern justice from an informed perspective.

Criminal Psychology: A Beginner's Guide Details

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Author : Ray Bull , Claire Cooke , Ruth Hatcher , Jessica Woodhams , Charlotte Bilby , Tim Grant

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From Reader Review Criminal Psychology: A Beginner's Guide for online ebook

David Ross says

A very easy to read introduction to criminal psychology and the treatment of offenders in western culture. Easy to read language and a very patient writing style make this accessible to people who may not have tackled anything in the field of psychology. I am a huge fan of Jung and have read many different texts in the field and still found this to be an interesting read. Something for all levels of knowledge.

Michael Storandt says

I watch Criminal Minds and thought that this would be interesting. It wasn't.

Nakieta says

I just really wanted more out of this book. I was expecting more about why people did fucked up things.
THAT'S WHAT I'M HERE FOR.

Any Length says

A great book that gives the reader a good insight into what criminal psychology is all about. I learnt a lot and felt it was very well written and explained.

Justin says

A brief, but good introduction to the field of Criminal/Forensic Psychology. Contents include what criminal psychologists do (dispelling media portrayals), profiling, policing, interviewing suspects and witnesses, detecting deception, eyewitness testimony, forensic linguistics, punishment of offenders, experiencing punishment, offender rehabilitation, and treatment of sex offenders.

The book is very straightforward, and cites a good amount of research. I'd recommend this book for any psych person or anyone interested in learning about this field.

Lynley says

This book feels like it's written with the senior high school student in mind, with the aim of correcting some pop cultural ideas about what the job of a criminal psychologist entails, based on some currently popular crime shows. I'd recommend it to a high school student thinking of a career in this field, who will soon learn

that there are very few (if any) 'criminal psychologists' -- it's sporadic contract work using the expertise of psychologists making money in related areas.

I listened to the audio book version. The narrator's reading style really emphasises how basic the prose is, and I would even say he condescends. He's got this weird way of taking pauses which reminds me of Stevie from Malcolm in the middle.

And I'm always interested to hear about other people's jobs, which is unfortunate given most people don't want to talk about them.

The final chapter is about sexual offenders. This is the chapter which made me think more people should read this book. There's this idea that sex offenders are a certain type of nasty person who we'd recognise if we met at a party, but the research describes a character more likely to be living among us, as they are of course, and it should be more widely known that sex offenders are able to empathise with most people in their lives but turn it off for the people they have chosen to abuse. It reminds me of something I heard about sociopaths lately: that even sociopaths are able to turn empathy on if they choose to.
