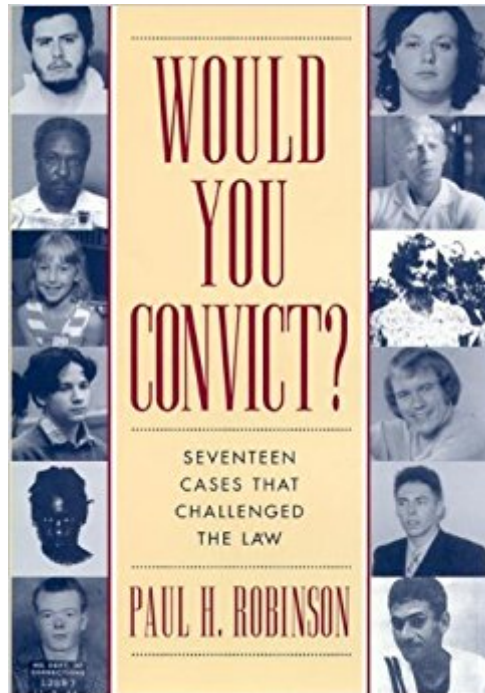




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Would You Convict?: Seventeen Cases That Challenged The Law



Synopsis

A police trooper inspects a car during a routine traffic stop and finds a vast cache of weapons, complete with automatic rifles, thousands of rounds of ammunition, and black ski masks-a veritable bank robber's kit. Should the men in the car be charged? If so, with what? A son neglects to care for his elderly mother, whose emaciated form is discovered shortly before she dies a painful death. Is the son's neglect punishable, and if so how? A career con man writes one bad check too many and is sentenced to life in prison-for a check in the amount of \$129.75. Is this just? A thief steals a backpack, only to find it contains a terrorist bomb. He alerts the police and saves lives, transforming himself from petty criminal to national hero. These are just a few of the many provocative cases that Paul Robinson presents and unravels in *Would You Convict?* Judging crimes and meting out punishment has long been an informal national pasttime. High-profile crimes or particularly brutal ones invariably prompt endless debate, in newspapers, on television, in coffee shops, and on front porches. Our very nature inclines us to be armchair judges, freely waving our metaphorical gavels and opining as to the innocence or guilt-and suitable punishment-of alleged criminals. Confronting this impulse, Paul Robinson here presents a series of unusual episodes that not only challenged the law, but that defy a facile or knee-jerk verdict. Narrating the facts in compelling, but detached detail, Robinson invites readers to sentence the transgressor (or not), before revealing the final outcome of the case. The cases described in *Would You Convict?* engage, shock, even repel. Without a doubt, they will challenge you and your belief system. And the way in which juries and judges have resolved them will almost certainly surprise you.

Book Information

File Size: 3314 KB

Print Length: 329 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0814775314

Publisher: NYU Press (November 1, 2001)

Publication Date: November 1, 2001

Sold by:Ã Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B004H0N70E

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #573,335 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #21

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Law > Procedures & Litigation > Jury #58 in Kindle Store > Law > Rules & Procedures > Jury #185 in Kindle Store > Law > Legal Theory & Systems > Judicial System

Customer Reviews

This book, written by a law professor, takes real cases and illustrates the complexity of law. Without a bias, the cases make the reader think about how hard "justice" is to achieve in the real world. Gave a copy to my children to stimulate a great discussion.

excellent book. makes you think about life in general.

Every day we read about the another high profile case that when the trial is completed there are what seems to be an endless series of debates. Would you convict is a glimpse into 17 cases that make you think. No one has ever said justice was perfect, but after you read this book you may wonder if there is any justice at all. A great attention to fine details laces this amazing work. Watch and read and one person is given life over a bad check for \$129. Your heart may skip a beat as you read about a mother neglected by her son or was she? Each story stops you and makes you look at the law a little differently. The author's has the unique ability to bring to life each case and you become the jury foreman. This book should be a must read for those interested in law or becoming and lawyer. Well done!

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