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Jury Decision Making: The State Of The Science (Psychology And Crime)

JURY DECISION MAKING
THE STATE OF THE SCIENCE



DENNIS J. DEVINE



Synopsis

While jury decision making has received considerable attention from social scientists, there have been few efforts to systematically pull together all the pieces of this research. In *Jury Decision Making* Dennis J. Devine examines over 50 years of research on juries and offers a "big picture" overview of the field. The volume summarizes existing theories of jury decision making and identifies what we have learned about jury behavior, including the effects of specific courtroom practices, the nature of the trial, the characteristics of the participants, and the evidence itself. Making use of those foundations, Devine offers a new integrated theory of jury decision making that addresses both individual jurors and juries as a whole and discusses its ramifications for the courts. Providing a unique combination of broad scope, extensive coverage of the empirical research conducted over the last half century, and theory advancement, this accessible and engaging volume offers "one-stop shopping" for scholars, students, legal professionals, and those who simply wish to better understand how well the jury system works.

Book Information

File Size: 1350 KB

Print Length: 284 pages

Publisher: NYU Press (August 6, 2012)

Publication Date: August 6, 2012

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B008RV2FIE

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #832,635 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #29

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Law > Procedures & Litigation > Jury #64 in Books > Law > Rules & Procedures > Jury #153 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Law > Procedures & Litigation > Civil Procedure

Customer Reviews

A while back I gave you a suggestion that you consider buying a book titled "Jury Decision Making;

The State of the Science." by Dennis J. Devine. I explained that it was a scientific study of scientific studies conducted on how juries work. I was stunned at the number of studies that were felt to be scientifically worth at least partial reliance upon. (None were published in Trial Magazine). The book even suggested why some studies perhaps had partial flaws and should not be relied upon outside certain perimeters. I renew the suggestion that you get the book (Cheap on Kindle). It is great ... and helpful to all. I was asked by several to report when I had completed the book. I have completed it and this is my report. FIRST: It would be helpful ONLY IF you are really going to spend much time actually submitting cases to a jury. SECOND: By far the greatest number of "good" studies deal with Criminal Law. It is almost required reading for lawyers that frequently go to a jury in a criminal case. THIRD: It has great resources to cite to judges considering problems such as bifurcation, joinder, pre-trial publicity, and "how to handle inadmissible evidence." All of the cited studies are identified so they can be researched. LAST: Here is an example of some of the "conclusions" which the author offers with the caution that some are "indicated" but reliance must be cautioned because of lack of enough scientific research and the ever present concept of "it depends." There are many more relating to Criminal Law than Civil Law. These I give are more important in Civil Law. a. Telling a Story. Early on it is of benefit to "tell a story."

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