

tægtssager. I forskningen bruger forfatterinderne offentlige rapporter, og resultaterne i disse data vurderes ud fra interview med forsvarere, anklagere, dommere, politifolk og medarbejdere i kvindehuse for voldtægtsofre i de seks retskredse.

Resultatet er, at reformer i lovgivningen om forbrydelsen voldtægt langt fra er nok til at nå frem til konkrete ændringer. Men selv om disse reformer ikke har haft den store indflydelse, som reformisterne håbede, betyder det dog ikke, at de ingen indflydelse har haft. Forfatterinderne mener, at vedtagelsen af de nye love indebærer en vigtig symbolsk meddelelse om behandlingen af voldtægtssager og voldtægtsofre.

I bogen findes der mange tabeller, figurer, en litteraturfortegnelse og sageregister. Det er en interessant og letlæselig bog, selv om resultaterne ikke er overraskende.

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SUMMARIES IN ENGLISH

Beth Grothe Nielsen: Behandling af seksualforbrydere. (Treatment of sex offenders). Pp. 191-211.

Since the 1970s, the "nothing works" perspective as elsewhere in the Western world has dominated most of the Danish penal policy. This article outlines a recent revival of the "treatment optimism", exemplified by a description of sex offender treatment programmes in the Correctional Service of Canada. The basic philosophy, the goals and the contents of the programmes are sketched, and some preliminary results of follow-up studies are presented. The concept of "a right to treatment" is mentioned. Finally, a Danish government proposal of establishing sex offender treatment programmes as an alternative to or integral part of imprisonment is compared to the Canadian model. The proposal is criticized for not incorporating knowledge and experiences from Canada.

Birte Kjellberg: Brandstifter, hvem - hvorfor? (Arsonist, who - why?). Pp. 212-217.

The present study describes 127 adult arsonists as to social background, personality characteristics and motives for fireraising.

The probands had been to a mental observation in the Forensic Department at the Psychiatric Hospital in Aarhus, and this quantitative study is based on information given in connection with the observation.

Most of the arsonists were men (109) and only 18 women. The average age was about 30 years. In general they have all had an insecure and disharmonic childhood as well as problems in school. More than half of them abused alcohol and nearly two thirds were intoxicated by hash, alcohol or medicine when they started the fires.

Most of the probands were granted early pension or were unemployed. Ninety percent lived alone, and more than half of them had no friends at all. They were unable to get into good contact with other people, although most of them were friendly and behaved non-violent. The most frequent cause of fire-raising was relaxation of tensions. They act out psychic pressure by setting on fire. Many of the arsonists were sentenced for crime and twenty two percent had earlier been sentenced for fireraising.

Almost twenty percent suffered from psychosis when committing the act, while the majority was diagnosed personality disorders.

The present study draws a social and psychological profile of a typical arsonist.

Bjørn Arne Steine: Fjernsynsprogrammet Øyenvitne. (The television-programme Øyenvitne). Pp. 218-236.

This is a study of the Norwegian television-programme "Øyenvitne" ("Eyewitness"). The concept of the programme is to try to solve unsolved crimes by presenting the facts of the case to the public. This is done by using several techniques, such as reconstructions of the criminal act and interviews with victims and the police. The hope is to establish contact between the police and the public in order to get tips from the public. With its use of effects, it blends information with entertainment and thus belongs in the infotainment-genre. While the journalists seem to be acting up to their role as actors in competitive commercial television, the participating policemen behave in a calm and low-tempered manner. The police is presented in a very sympathetic way.

The most important result of the study is the very close relationship between police and journalists that this concept demands. It is a relationship of mutual benefit. The journalists get access to information they would not normally get, such as detailed information about unsolved crimes. The police is given regular, free, prime-time advantageous mentioning, as well as close contacts with loyal journalists. This close relationship may be thought to expand into other areas of news-production as well. It is well known from earlier research that it is far easier for the institutional elites than other groups to reach out with their opinions and views in the mass-media. This kind of relationship can be said to strengthen the institutional elites', in this case the police's, influence or control over mass-media content. The article makes a point of this being in contradiction with the ideals of a free and independent media.

Another result of the study is that *Øyenvitne* seems to strengthen and confirm the already existing, and somewhat stereotypical attitudes and views towards issues concerning crime and criminal justice, rather than create new ones or balance and modify the existing attitudes in the public on these subjects. This is more difficult to decide whether or not *Øyenvitne* is part in creating unnecessary fear of crime. It can not be confirmed, nor can it be rejected.

In any case, *Øyenvitne* represents a new trend in television, the *reality television*, that should be of much interest to researchers in the future.

Ny litteratur

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