Criminal Justice Policy provides a thematic overview of criminal justice policy and its relationship to the American criminal justice system. Scholars, practitioners, and politicians continually debate the value of these policies in their evaluations of the current system. As the nature of this subject involves a host of issues (including politics, public sentiment, research, and practice), the authors expertly highlight these concerns on criminal justice policy and address the implications for the overall system and society at large.

This text is organized into three parts: Foundations of criminal justice policy focuses on the role of politics, best practices, and street level bureaucracy in criminal justice policy. Criminal justice policy in action provides an analysis of fifteen different policy issues in criminal justice, such as immigration, drugs, mental health and capital punishment. Each section begins with a basic summary of the policy, accompanied by a brief synopsis of the framing issues. This brief, but informative summary, draws students’ attention to essential concepts and ideas, provides a roadmap for what they can expect to learn, and ensures continuity throughout the text. The text concludes with a discussion about the future directions of criminal justice policy.

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FEATURES/NEW TO THIS EDITION

Key Features
- This comprehensive text is specifically designed to offer in-depth and engaging criminal justice policy material for undergraduate courses.
- Each chapter, written by researchers and scholars who are experts in their field, exposes students to the realities of criminal justice policy and the effects of policy decisions on the criminal justice system.
- Each chapter is organized into six key issues of criminal justice policy, providing internal consistency and allowing students to thoroughly understand the material and evaluate each policy.
- The book’s final chapter focuses on emerging issues within criminal justice policy, highlighting four prominent themes: 1. criminal justice realignment as a policy response to violations of inmates’ constitutional rights; 2. juvenile justice policy modifications in response to the U.S. Supreme Court’s changing view of juveniles; 3. a renewed debate about gun control policies in response to high profile incidents; and 4. recent 2nd Amendment decisions and 4th Amendment protections in the new digital age.
- A supportive companion site offers research articles, lecture outlines, PowerPoint slides, a test bank, and more to further engage students with the material.