

The book has an engaging and polemic style. Instead of preaching to intelligence officers and crime analysts who are described as the converted, the authors define their target audience as law enforcement decision makers, policy officers and the police chiefs who control resources and priorities. The claim is made that there is a lack of strategic thinking within law enforcement; that senior managers do not know how to convert intelligence reports into crime reduction policies; that intelligence reports disappear into black holes and that a traditional view of policing values investigative work which leads to arrests and prosecutions far more highly than the work of criminal analysts.

*Strategic Thinking in Criminal Intelligence* is a work which should be considered by practitioners, policy makers and readers with an interest in law enforcement. When law enforcement agencies are continually under pressure to deliver more with even fewer resources, the field of strategic criminal intelligence has a role to play in the reduction, detection and prevention of crime.

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## Non-adversarial Justice

Michael King, Arie Freiberg, Becky Batagol and Ross Hyams, *Non-adversarial Justice*, 2009, The Federation Press, pb \$59.95.

*Non-adversarial Justice* covers new and emerging areas of the law in the context of trying to obtain justice through means other than the traditional adversarial practice on which our legal system is based.

The book examines areas such as therapeutic jurisprudence, restorative justice and preventative law in detail. It also looks at holistic approaches to law, appropriate or alternative dispute resolution and diversion schemes and intervention programs.

Acknowledging changes in the law and society over time, the book provides a useful discussion on developments in the law that are aiming for solutions without necessarily having to revert to litigation. Looking at options such as diversion programs and indigenous sentencing courts shows that progress has been made with some significant problems, and solutions have been sought to replace traditional legal remedies and alternatives. The book provides insight into language often used in legal circles without people necessarily understanding its meaning. Therapeutic jurisprudence in the context of mental health law is examined in a helpful and thorough way.

The book should not be treated as an alternative to legal advice but as a guide for people practising in these areas. Further, for those operating in traditional areas of the law, it is a useful guide to emerging areas of the law

and alternatives to common practices where people have been operating in the same way for many years.

The significant impact alternative dispute resolution mechanisms have had over time is examined in detail and gives weight to the argument that alternatives are being favoured over litigation for more cost-effective and efficient results in resolving disputes.

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## International Law in Principle

Andrew Mitchell and Jennifer Beard, *International Law in Principle*, 2009, Thomson Reuters (Professional), pb \$83.

Is there a law subject with more textbooks than international law? Unlike most law subjects, there are more than just common law authors – authors from the entire world have written on the subject. The choice ranges from detailed treatises (e.g. Brownlie, Oppenheim) to sophisticated broad outlines (e.g. any annual Hague lecture volume) to simply written student outlines.

Mitchell and Beard have produced a worthwhile contribution to this daunting range of literature. Their concise book is aimed more at the student or general reader than the specialist, but is not oversimplified. As they note, the book may challenge the lay reader, but it is aimed at an interdisciplinary audience. As a well-written summary it is also well worth a read for experts in international law interested in a brief refresher.

The book covers the nature and sources of international law; domestic law interface; statehood and non-state actors; jurisdiction and immunities; state responsibility; treaties; the UN; the use of force; international human rights law; international criminal law; international environmental law and the WTO. Each chapter concludes with practice questions and tutorial questions, which highlight the value of the book for students.

The feature that makes the book stand out is its focus on Australian source material. There are conspicuous frequent references to Australian cases, legislation and commentators. This will make the book appealing to Australian students and anyone interested in a particularly Australian take on international law. The book does not give much coverage of other jurisdictions (e.g. civil law jurisdictions), but this is justifiable in a text of this nature. Its Australian focus makes it accessible to Australian readers and provides a base for further ventures into the international literature.

The upshot: the book is to be recommended for Australian readers looking for a well-written and reliable introduction to international law. ●

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