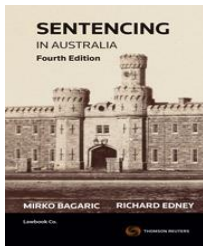


Book Review



Sentencing in Australia

Mirko Bagaric and Richard Edney, (3rd edn), Thomson Reuters, 2016, pb \$153

Not everyone has the time, money or inclination to wade through Mirko Bagaric and Richard Edney's encyclopaedic loose-leaf service on Australian sentencing law (more than 2000 pages at last count), which is why the compendious, single-volume *Sentencing in Australia* is such a valuable resource. Now in its third edition, the book offers a comprehensive survey of Australian sentencing law, both at the level of principle and in terms of its practical application. While this new edition will no doubt be a helpful first port of call for students and researchers, its primary audience is the practitioner.

The opening chapters offer a brief treatment of the overarching aims of the sentencing exercise and a discussion of recent important trends in Australian sentencing jurisprudence, such as the use of statistics in sentencing and the increasing resort to guideline judgments. The true value of the book, however, is in the 300-odd pages exhaustively enumerating the circumstances and factors that are capable, under statute and at common law, of aggravating and mitigating an offence.

Julian R Murphy, judge's associate, High Court of Australia