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John Spencer, Rhona Flin


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THE EVIDENCE OF CHILDREN

THE LAW AND THE PSYCHOLOGY



J. R. SPENCER AND RHONA FLIN

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John Spencer, Rhona Flin : The Evidence of Children: The Law and the Psychology (Blackstone Press) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Evidence of Children: The Law and the Psychology (Blackstone Press):

This is an account of the civil and criminal rules affecting children in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland

reviewing them in the light of the findings of psychologists and social scientists and makes proposals for reform. There have been many important developments which include hearsay evidence which has become freely available in civil proceedings involving children in both England and Scotland; videotapes of earlier interviews which have become admissible in criminal proceedings in England; in Scotland the law has been changed to allow the whole of a child's evidence in a criminal case to be taken ahead of trial on commission; there has been a wave of popular concern about "ritual abuse" and among psychologists there is increasing concern about both "repressed" and "implanted" memories.

The book is engagingly and fluently written and, for those with an interest in this important contemporary issue, it cannot be too highly recommended. *Journal of the Law Society of Scotland* About the Author Professor John Spencer is a Fellow of Selwyn College, Cambridge and has taught evidence and procedure for many years. Rhona Flin is a research psychologist who has written extensively on the subject of children's evidence.