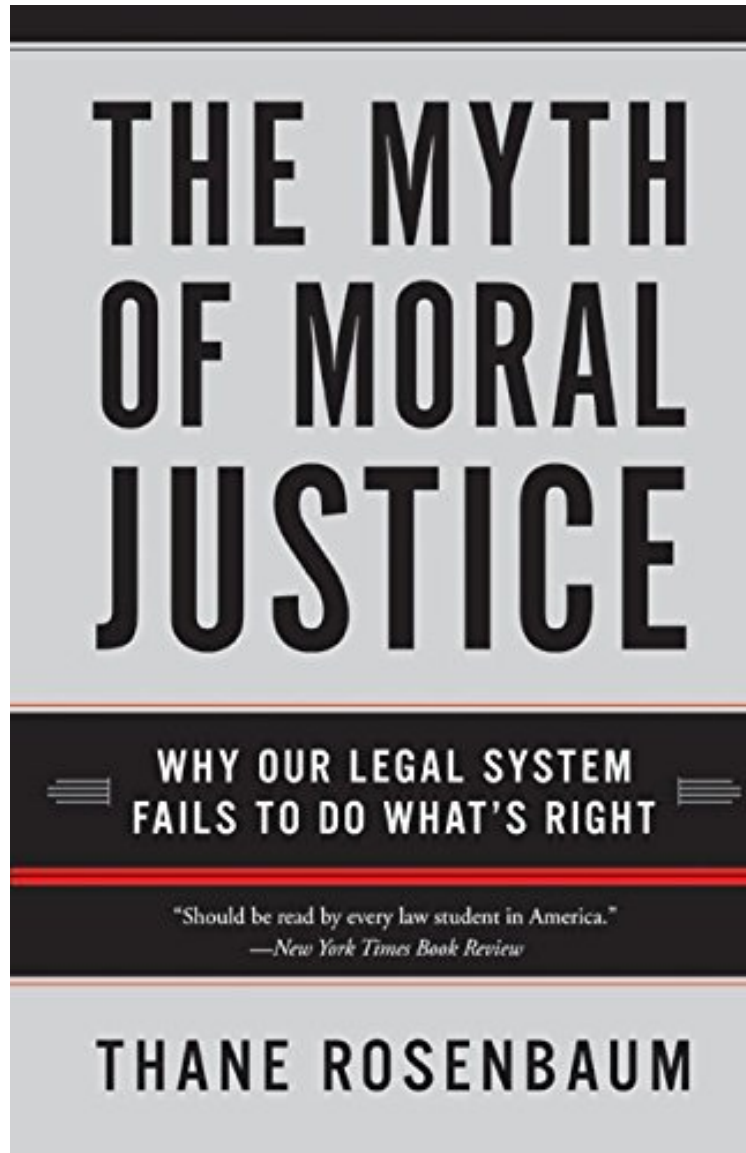


The Myth of Moral Justice: Why Our Legal System Fails to Do What's Right

Thane Rosenbaum

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#1680004 in Books Thane Rosenbaum 2005-05-03 2005-05-03Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .87 x 5.311, .64 #File Name: 0060735244384 pagesThe Myth of Moral Justice | File size: 47.Mb

Thane Rosenbaum : The Myth of Moral Justice: Why Our Legal System Fails to Do What's Right before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Myth of Moral Justice: Why Our Legal System Fails to Do What's Right:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Quick Original OpinionBy Original369The author makes a few

good points such as acknowledging that interpersonal remedies would be helpful instead of cold legal remedies. The problem I have with the book is the application of the author's ideas in realistic situations. I have read to Chapter four and I am waiting for opinions that are more tangible and not "spiritual." A word the author uses often without ever defining exactly how it would be applied in a court case. My biggest problem is the use of movies, tv shows and other fictional stories as evidence to support why "spiritual" morality would benefit the legal system. Nonetheless, I have to finish the book even though I have not found it enlightening since the second chapter when the author revealed the answer to the legal system is to introduce morality into it. A idea that is problematic once someone begins asking what moral standard will be applied and who decides what is moral and what is not.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Rosenbaum will change the way you think about the legal system! By Drew Morris Rosenbaum shows he is not just another lawyer writing another book about the law. He offers a fresh perspective on justice and morality that rarely (if ever) gets discussed. Rosenbaum's novelist chops are apparent as his fluid writing style makes this a pleasurable read.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Intellectually Stimulating By satisfied customer This was an excellent read; I agree with the endorsement, "a must read for all law students." I would extend that to all active and engaged citizens, as it opened my mind to think of the law in ways I had never done before.

We are obsessed with watching television shows and feature films about lawyers, reading legal thrillers, and following real-life trials. Yet, at the same time, most of us don't trust lawyers and hold them and the legal system in very low esteem. In *The Myth of Moral Justice*, law professor and novelist Thane Rosenbaum suggests that this paradox stems from the fact that citizens and the courts are at odds when it comes to their definitions of justice. With a lawyer's expertise and a novelist's sensibility, Rosenbaum tackles complicated philosophical questions about our longing for moral justice. He also takes a critical look at what our legal system does to the spirits of those who must come before the law, along with those who practice within it.

From Publishers Weekly A professor at Fordham Law School, Rosenbaum (*The Golems of Gotham*) observes that American culture is enthralled by lawyers and courtroom proceedings, yet Americans distrust lawyers and find the quality of justice in this country deficient. He ascribes this what he feels is ambivalence regarding the lack of morality and emotional complexity in law offices and in courtrooms. Rosenbaum calls for a "morally inspired transformation of the legal system," a "massive attitude adjustment" that would replace the sterile formality of the law with conscience and spirituality. To accomplish this, he advocates fewer settlements of cases and more trials, at which injured parties would be permitted, even encouraged, to vent rage at their oppressors. A novelist as well as teacher of law and literature, Rosenbaum believes in the power of storytelling as a means of healing and insists the storytelling should continue even after judgment is entered. A second trial phase should immediately convene, one in which all participants would discuss their grief, disappointment and shame. No one would be permitted to leave until all the stories had been told in full. On other themes, Rosenbaum urges that a duty to rescue should be recognized in American law as a moral imperative, and endorses apologies as beneficial to victims and wrongdoers alike. Readers will recognize that this book is more visionary than practical, and lawyers will be annoyed at the author's scolding and superior tone. But perhaps provoking lawyers is part of the book's point.

Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From Booklist Lawyer-turned-novelist Rosenbaum argues for the ideal of a morally centered legal system rather than our current one, which is so rigid and formulaic that it rarely delivers just outcomes. What most often brings people to court are "indignities done to the spirit" that require more than the remedies of punishment and monetary compensation. Sometimes it is spiritual and restorative remedies that are required, such as simply giving victims the opportunity to speak and be heard. Instead, our system is plagued with machinations from plea bargaining, settlements, evidence rules, technicalities, and widespread lying under oath, which lead to a loss of faith or, worse, untreated emotional injuries that get played out in conflicts, riots, and vengeance. Looking at literature and movies, from *The Verdict* to *The Merchant of Venice*, and real-life trials, including the O. J. Simpson trial, Rosenbaum explores the moral complexities within the law and human lives and our never-ending fascination and frustration with the law. This is a thoughtful look at the shortcomings of the American legal system.

Vanessa Bush Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved This is a thoughtful look at the shortcomings of the American legal system. (Booklist) Rosenbaum should be read by every law student in America. (New York Times Book) Mr. Rosenbaum's complaints about the current legal system are widely shared. (The New York Sun) [Rosenbaum] cleverly enlivens his discourse with histrionic scenes from novels, films, plays and TV. (Miami Herald) [Rosenbaum's] book ought to be required reading in law schools and continuing legal education classes. (Washington Post)