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Women, Violence and Crime Prevention. Jalna Hanmer and Sheila Saunders.

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futility are only more evident when sociological studies of drug use, such as those provided by Patricia Adler, are examined.

This book reports on a follow up study of drug dealing in an upper-middle class Californian community. The original study was undertaken in the late 1970s, and its findings were published in 1983. As the issue of drug abuse became more prominent, Adler sought to trace the careers of the drug dealers she originally interviewed. Using ethnographic techniques, Adler presents a powerful analysis of the reasons people enter the dangerous world of drug dealing. Her research contradicts popular images of drug dealers showing that they come from diverse backgrounds and interact symbiotically with 'respectable' society. Her finding that drug dealers are motivated by the same values and aspirations that drive America's obsession with success and glamour has profound implications for policy.

Jalna Hanmer and Sheila Saunders. *Women, Violence and Crime Prevention*. Aldershot, England: Avebury, 1993. \$59.95. (Distributed in the United States by Ashgate Publishing Co., Old Post Road, Brookfield, VT 05036)

This book reports in considerable detail on a study undertaken for the West Yorkshire Police in Britain into crime against women and the ways in which such crime can be prevented. The authors begin with the premise that crime against women is extensive but under-reported. They review numerous studies which show that much violent and sexual crime against women is committed not by strangers but by persons who are intimately associated with their victims. In addition, the way the criminal justice system responds is highly colored by gender stereotypes. Both factors contribute to the popular but fallacious perception that women are only marginally affected by crime. In fact, as the author's reveal, women are the most fearful population of all social, economic and cultural groupings in Britain today.

The study's major goal is to foster new criminal justice strategies that provide improved services to women. Particular emphasis is placed on prevention. The book combines an analysis of quantitative research with the insights of qualitative studies which focus on personal experiences and subjective

interpretations of events. Information about the attitudes of women towards crime is presented together with an account of the way they are currently served by both statutory and voluntary agencies. The responses of the police and lawyers are also examined. The book concludes with a detailed set of recommendations for improving the situation. At the time of publication, the book's major recommendations had already been adopted by the West Yorkshire Police. Its recommendations and findings deserve to be widely read, analyzed and implemented.

Eric Cummins: *The Rise and Fall of California's Radical Prison Movement*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1994. \$45.00 hardcover; \$16.95 papercover.

The political activities of students, poor people, welfare recipients, oppressed minorities and others during the 1960s has been well documented. Less well known are the efforts of prison inmates at the time to organize themselves and to express their frustrations through political activism. Although the inmate movement emerged in several states and in other countries as well, it was particularly forceful in California where a highly organized convict movement attracted national attention through its persistence campaigns to improve prison conditions, and secure public support for its activities.

Cummins has written a gripping book which contains a detailed narrative of events in the California prison system during the 1960s and 1970s, as well as important sociological insights into the way prisons operate, the way prisoners are treated and the way they respond. The book focuses on the most celebrated events of the period—the efforts of Caryl Chessman to escape the death penalty, the imprisonment of political activists such as Eldridge Cleaver and George Jackson, and the creation of the first prison unions. The book shows how these activities failed in the face of a brutal reaction to secure meaningful changes. Its conclusions are depressing in light of the inexorable rise in crime during the 1980s and 1990s, the rapid expansion of the prison system and the perpetuation of simplistic beliefs about the possibility of prisons solving the nation's crime problem.