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### Books Received

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## BOOKS RECEIVED

**Corporate Crime Under Attack: The Ford Pinto Case and Beyond.** By Francis T. Cullen, William J. Maakestad and Gray Cavender. Cincinnati, Ohio: Anderson Publishing Co. 1987. Pp vii + 398. Soft Cover. \$20.95.

*Corporate Crime Under Attack* explores the concept that the corporate entity may be held liable for a crime, indeed a very violent crime, normally associated with a human perpetrator: reckless homicide. The book tells the story of the Ford Pinto trial and a prosecutor's quest to make a corporation pay its debt to society.

Before the book begins its narrative of the events leading up to the infamous accident that became the Ford Pinto case, the authors establish the historical and societal backdrop that gave rise to the notion of corporate culpability. The pages describe a growing swell of public outrage at "criminal" corporate behavior, fuelled by greed and often facilitated by political corruption. The apparent immunity of the corporate entity seemed to create a wealth-based double standard. Allegations surfaced that "the rich get richer and the poor get prison."

The tension established in the first portion of the book is resolved with the telling of the Ford Pinto case. The tale illustrates society's inevitable backlash, and how punishment is now visited upon a wrongdoing corporation. Factually, the case is a perfect lance with which to champion the cause of corporate criminal liability.

Ford, in determining the most practical design for the gas tanks of certain vehicles, performed what can only be perceived as a savagely unconscionable cost-benefit analysis. Ford determined that with a certain gas tank design, manufacturing costs could be reduced by \$11 per unit. However, such a design was predicted to result in 180 burn deaths, 180 serious burn injuries, and 2,100 burned vehicles. Ford brutally calculated that the per-unit manufacturing savings would more than offset any wrongful death or other tort damages awards, and on that basis, began the manufacture of veritable human crematoriums.

The book gives an insightful narration of the Ford fiasco, including the interesting sideline that one of today's most popular folk heroes, Lee Iacocca, was then an executive at Ford who resisted proposed improvements of the dangerous vehicles. Aside from the trial, the book contemplates the impact the decision will have on manufacturers and litigants in the future. *Corporate Crime Under Attack* is exceptional because not only will it provide the reader with a solid foundational knowledge of corporate criminal liability, it does so in a very entertaining and intriguing manner.

**User's Guide to A Uniform System of Citation. The Cure for the Bluebook Blues.** By Alan L. Dworsky. Littleton, Colorado: Fred B. Rothman & Co. 1988. Pp v + 42. Soft Cover. \$4.95.

Many a legal scholar has longed for a simple solution to the omnipresent albatross of legal writing. . . The "blue book." A Uniform System of Citation often seems impossibly complex and annoyingly trivial, but mastery of the blue book is essential for the legal writer. It is this dilemma that Alan L. Dworsky aims to resolve in his blue book user's guide.

Dworsky's guide is not meant to replace the blue book, it is intended to supplement and clarify the blue book. Dworsky's first task is to help the reader conceptualize the blue book more accurately as a reference book, not an intimidating how-to manual. Dworsky thereafter structures his book as the how-to manual you often wish the blue book was. The text is organized by simple headings which promise quick relief from the blue book blues, such as "what to underline," "what not to underline" and "citing a case from a state court."

Dworsky's users guide will answer many prayers of practicing legal writers and editors, but the book should not be thought of as a self-contained replacement for the blue book. It functions best as a starting point and problem solving device.

**The Jewish Law of Inheritance.** By Danyan I. Grunfeld. Oak Park, Michigan: Targum Press. 1987. Pp. xxxi + 146. Hard Cover. \$21.00.

This book is publicized as being the only one in the English language to deal with the theory and practice of legal issues surrounding the Jewish will. The book does, however, contain a good deal of untranslated Hebrew and may frustrate a reader unfamiliar with that language.

The book's stated purpose is to resolve the dilemma facing an

orthodox jew who wishes to draft a will that complies with both the laws of the land and the demands of the Torah's laws of inheritance. The author is primarily concerned with wills that satisfy the law of the land but run afowl of the Torah.

The book includes both english and hebrew translations of a model jewish will and should be of valuable assistance to anyone involved in this rather unique undertaking.

