

*Nightlife and Crime: Social Order and Governance in International Perspective.* (2009) Oxford University Press.

- The only title of its kind to take an outward-looking and international perspective - stimulates comparative thinking in this growing area of research
- International contributions from world-renowned experts dealing with nightlife, crime, culture and regulation in the UK, USA, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Spain and Hong Kong amongst others
- Features in-depth case studies from a cross-section of regions in America
- Combines scholarly research and discussion of police practice - provides an accessible and illuminating resource for knowledge transfer between academics, criminal justice professionals, urban planners and NGOs working to reduce the harms associated with alcohol and drugs.

Nightlife and Crime is a collection of scholarly reports on crime and disorder in the Night Time Economies (NTEs) of 17 countries. This innovative volume provides an outward looking and international perspective on the area in an accessible and thought-provoking style. The issues raised in Nightlife and Crime go to the heart of contemporary debates on 'binge-drinking' and anti-social behaviour which have been hotly debated in Britain following implementation of the Licensing Act 2003 and Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 and consultation of the Policing and Crime Bill 2009. Such themes are also at the forefront of public policy discourse and media interest in other countries such as Australia and Spain.

Academic literature on crime and policing in the NTE has so far primarily focused on England and Australasia, with cross-cultural comparative approaches noticeable only by their absence. This title is a marked change from this tendency, allowing readers to access data and critique from an interdisciplinary team of world-renowned experts. The book's impressive range of contributors explain themes and particularities within the countries from which their research is drawn, and American contributions feature in-depth case studies tackling three different regions in the States. Other countries discussed include the UK, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Spain, Norway and Hong Kong. Each contributor examines the main crime and disorder issues within their country's cultural contexts, summarising the police strategies used and the domestic research literature. Each chapter reflects on the broader challenges these crimes present to the economic and social life of towns and cities, with the aim of facilitating the transfer of knowledge between scholars and practitioners in various parts of the world.

On the basis of the studies included in the volume, the Editor draws out tentative areas of comparison in the introductory and concluding chapters, with the aim of encouraging the development of further comparative and collaborative research. This unique, ambitious book is of interest to academics and practitioners alike who are tasked with making sense of this burgeoning area of criminology, and is also of value to undergraduate and postgraduate courses dealing with Night Time Economies.

**Readership:** Primary readership: Academics, research staff and undergraduate/postgraduate students in Criminology, Socio-legal studies, Sociology,

Social Psychology and Human Geography. Secondary readership: Criminal justice, local government, alcohol and drug agency, and legal professionals, together with civic society and amenity groups.

*Bar Wars: Contesting the Night in Contemporary British Cities.* (2006) Oxford University Press.

- Makes a new and original contribution to literature on the night-time economy, policing, urban culture, and public violence
- Written in a very engaging, easily accessible literary style
- Includes the author's first-hand accounts and descriptions of his time as an expert witness to the licensing courts, plus interview data and first hand observational ethnographic accounts to provide a unique perspective on the subject matter
- 'Binge drinking' culture is intrinsic to urban leisure and has come to pose a key threat to public order, making this a highly topical contribution to current criminological literature

In Britain today, if you are in the business of fighting crime, then you have to be in the business of dealing with alcohol. 'Binge drinking' culture is intrinsic to urban leisure and has come to pose a key threat to public order. Unsurprisingly, a struggle is occurring. Pub and club companies, local authorities, central government, the police, the judiciary, local residents, and revellers, all hold variously competing notions of night-time social order and the uses and meanings of public and private space.

*Bar Wars* explores the issue of contestation within and between these groups. Located within a long tradition of urban ethnography, the book offers unique and hard-hitting analyses of social control in bars and clubs, courtroom battles between local communities and the drinks industry, and street-level policing. These issues go to the heart of contemporary debates on anti-social behaviour and were hotly debated during the development of the Licensing Act 2003 and its contentious passage through parliament.

The book presents a controversial critique of recent shifts in national alcohol policy. It uses historical, documentary, interview, and observational methods to chart the emergence of the 'night-time high street,' a social environment set aside for the exclusive purposes of mass hedonistic consumption, and describes the political and regulatory struggles that help shape important aspects of urban life. The book identifies the adversarial licensing trial as a key arena of contestation and describes how leisure corporations and their legal champions circumvent regulatory control in courtroom duels with subordinate opponents. The author's experiences as an expert witness to the licensing courts provide a unique perspective, setting his work apart from other academic commentators. *Bar Wars* takes the study of the night-time economy to a new level of sophistication, making it essential reading for all those wishing to understand the governance of crime and social order in contemporary cities.

**Readership:** Students and academics in criminology, sociology, law, socio-legal studies, political science and human geography; crime prevention practitioners in the police, local authorities, public health, youth work, and alcohol policy areas; practising and academic lawyers in licensing and criminal law; alcohol charities, pressure groups and local residents' associations.

*Bouncers: Violence and Governance in the Night-time Economy.* (2003) Oxford University Press.

- Graphic first hand descriptions of the workings of the night-time economy
- The first in depth legal-sociological study of bouncers
- Critiques current methods of policing and regulation
- A unique snapshot of contemporary Britain

Phil wrote 'Bouncers' with three other authors, including his PhD supervisor, Dick Hobbs, now Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics and Political Science. The book is widely considered a modern day criminological 'classic' and a seminal text on the night-time economy:

In recent years, the expansion of night-time leisure has emerged as a key indicator of post-industrial urban prosperity, attracting investment, creating employment and re-generating the built environment. These leisure economies are youth-dominated, focusing upon the sale and consumption of alcohol. Unprecedented numbers of young people now flock to town centres that are crammed with bars, pubs and clubs, and the resulting violent disorder has over-run police resources that remain geared to the drinking patterns and alcohol cultures of previous generations.

Post-industrial re-structuring has spawned an increasingly complex mass of night-time leisure options through which numerous licit and illicit commercial opportunities flow. Yet, regardless of the fashionable and romantic notions of many contemporary urban theorists, it is alcohol, mass intoxication and profit rather than 'cultural regeneration,' which lies at the heart of this rapidly expanding dimension of post-industrial urbanism.

Private security in the bulky form of bouncers fills the void left by the public police. These men (only 7% are women), whose activities are barely regulated by the State, are dominated by a powerful subculture rooted in routine violence and intimidation. Using ethnography, participant observation and extensive interviews with all the main players, this controversial book charts the emergence of the bouncer as one of the most graphic symbols in the iconography of post industrial Britain.

**Readership:** Criminologists, sociologists, students of urban studies, police studies, and political scientists. Practitioners in the fields of licensing, planning, policing, and related areas.