CAMPUS CRIME

Second Edition

CAMPUS CRIME

Legal, Social, and Policy Perspectives

Edited by

BONNIE S. FISHER

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and

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For T.A.H.S., T.S.M., and my family with thanks for the support and the understanding.

J.J.S.

To Nick, Olivia, and Camille with many thanks for their endless encouragement and patience.

B.S.F.

PREFACE

This volume is the second edition of *Campus Crime: Legal, Social and Policy Perspectives.* The demand for a second edition is evidence that interest in the legal, social, and policy contexts of campus crime has not waned since publication of the first edition in 1995. Congress and state legislators have maintained continued interest in campus crime and security through passage of, and amendments to, laws addressing these issues. Researchers from a variety of disciplines have published numerous studies that examined a wide range of campus crime and security topics from the extent and nature of student victimization to compliance by postsecondary institutions to federal and state legislation. Law enforcement professionals have made progress reforming the organizational structure and tactical practices of campus crime and security persist among students and their parents, administrators, faculty, staff, and student advocacy groups.

Among our purposes in assembling a second edition of *Campus Crime: Legal, Social and Policy Perspectives* is to share with readers the advancements that have been made to better understand campus crime, especially student victimization, and effectively address security issues. For the sake of continuity with the first edition, we maintain the three section divisions found there: The Legal Context of Campus Crime, The Social Context of Campus Crime, and The Security Context of Campus Crime. Within each section, contributors address what we believe, given our knowledge and expertise, constitute the most pressing crime and security issues that continue to face post-secondary administrators and their students, faculty, and staff.

Some chapters included in this second edition address "long-standing" topics such as the sexual victimization of college women and the role of campus police departments in securing the campus. The remaining chapters address "new" topics emerging since publication of the first edition. First, over 15 years have passed since passage of the first ever federal-level campus crime legislation, now known as the *Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act* (20 U.S.C. 1092[f]). Its requirements have generated numerous critical discussions and empirical analyses that

raise questions about the legislation's effectiveness and on campus crime impact. Second, researchers have completed and published the results of at least five national-level and numerous smaller scale victimization studies since 1995. Together, they have filled gaps (some of which we identified in the Postscript of the first edition) in researchers' understanding of the extent, nature, and spatial aspects of student victimization. Beyond estimating victimization rates, these studies offer insight concerning how students' routine activities and lifestyles, including alcohol use and abuse, contribute to their victimization risk. Third, since 1995, legislatures have criminalized two "new" behaviors, stalking and "high-tech" abuses such as computer hacking and identity theft, which pose unique victimization risks and perpetration opportunities for students, and create security and policing challenge for campus administrators far different from "traditional" types of violence and property theft. Finally, implementation of community-oriented policing on many campuses has ushered in a new era of campus policing and which gives rise both to new practices and challenges.

Section I of the book examines the legal context of campus crime by presenting five chapters focusing on the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery). From a legal standpoint, Clery and its state-level counterparts have created important obligations for postsecondary institutions, including annually reporting campus crime statistics and publicly reporting institutional processes designed to enhance campus security and provide assistance to campus crime victims. The chapters acquaint the reader with: (1) the genesis and evolution of Clery, (2) the current state of research concerning public awareness of Clery and its impact, (3) results and implications of the only national-level evaluation of the sexual assault reporting requirements of Clery, the National Campus Sexual Assault Policy Study, (4) inherent limitations of Clery's goals and their effect on the "true" extent of gendered violence on campus and resulting ineffective institutional responses, and (5) a national-level comparative analysis of statebased Clery-style legislation.

Part II examines the social context of campus crime. The six chapters in this section present both descriptions of, and explanations for, the extent and nature of college student victimization, addressing a range of salient topics that are of interest to researchers and administrators. Four of the chapters address issues such as whether student victimization rates differ from nonstudents', the utility of routine activities and lifestyle theories for explaining college student victimization patterns, the role of alcohol use and abuse in understanding college student victimization, and the spatial distribution on campus of frequently occurring offenses, such as alcohol and drug violations, and vandalism. The remaining two chapters focus on crimes typically committed primarily against women. One chapter offers a comprehensive

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overview of the growing body of research into sexual harassment, rape, and intimate partner abuse of college women. The second chapter discusses the extent, nature, and impact of stalking behaviors committed against and by college students.

Section III of the book focuses on security issues on campus. Two chapters focus on the organization and practices of campus police by examining the evolution of campus policing over the past four decades and the administrative and operational models of campus police, including the recent implementation of community-oriented policing and the application of community-based strategies on campuses. The third chapter examines the rise of high-tech abuses and crimes on campus and offers suggestions for how postsecondary institutions can address these new forms of illegal behavior.

Although we added new topics to and updated others for the second edition, we remain committed to providing a timely compilation of topics to an audience of students, parents, academicians, practitioners, and college administrators. In compiling these chapters, our goal was to bring together works designed to provide readers a current picture and critical analysis of issues concerning the legal, social, and policy contexts of campus crime and security. We believe the collected works of this volume offer insightful discussions and raise relevant questions. The authors also provide plausible responses to addressing campus crime and security, a social problem that continues to affect students, their parents, and postsecondary institutions on a daily basis.

> BONNIE S. FISHER JOHN J. SLOAN, III

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We again thank our editor, Michael Payne Thomas, for his guidance and patience with us in putting together this second edition. We also are grateful to our contributors, both returning and new, for producing highquality chapters and adhering to our deadlines with a sense of humor. Their enthusiasm for this volume and dedicated efforts give us hope that future research can better inform the development and implementation of effective proactive and prevention responses to campus crime.

John thanks Tavis for her support of this project, and Dr. Tennant S. McWilliams, Dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences at UAB, for release time from administrative duties that allowed him to complete this project. Finally, he thanks his parents, John and Christine, and his siblings, Timothy and Kathleen, for their support over the years.

Bonnie thanks Nick for encouraging her to follow her passion for engaging in college student victimization research. She thanks her daughters, Olivia and Camille, for helping her understand how the world works from a girl's perspective and for making her laugh and think critically every day. She thanks her colleagues for their guidance and support throughout the years, especially her coauthors, Frank Cullen and Leah Daigle. Many thanks also to her students who provided her ideas and insights into *why* and *how* student victimization occurs.

John and Bonnie are already looking forward to working on a third edition of the book, although next time, we won't let ten years pass between editions! Mark your calendars for 2011–we've already marked ours!

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CAMPUS CRIME

Chapter 1

CAMPUS CRIME POLICY: LEGAL, SOCIAL, AND SECURITY CONTEXTS

BONNIE S. FISHER AND JOHN J. SLOAN, III

INTRODUCTION

I n 1990, Congress passed and President George H.W. Bush signed into law the Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act of 1990 (20 U.S.C. 1092[f]), renamed in 1998 the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 U.S.C. 1092[f]; henceforth the Clery Act), in remembrance of Jeanne Clery, who was murdered by a fellow student while she slept in her dorm room at Lehigh University in 1986. Concurrently, colleges and universities began being held liable for "foreseeable" criminal victimizations occurring in dormitories or other on-campus locations, state legislatures began passing their own "Clery style" legislation, and postsecondary institutions struggled to professionalize their campus security and law enforcement agencies. Additionally, social science researchers began systematically studying crime and security issues on postsecondary institutions. Their findings revealed sometimes-startling realities about life in "the ivory tower."

These events form the backdrop of what we call the legal, social, and security contexts of campus crime and are the basis for campus officials to develop, implement, and evaluate policies and programs that address campus crime. Importantly, a change in one of these contexts affects the others, making them inextricably linked. For example, research shows that a sizable portion of college students are crime victims, in particular that college women suffer sexual victimization at high levels (the social context). This was, in part, the rationale for legislation that was passed requiring postsecondary institutions to create both prevention programs, procedures and services for

specifically dealing with these victims (the security context). Another example is research conducted (the social context) that examines postsecondary institutional compliance with state and federal legislation relating to campus crime and security (the legal context). Thus, while one can examine each context separately, it is also important to keep in mind the linkages among them and their relationship to campus crime policy.

In this chapter, we present an overview of the legal, social, and security contexts of campus crime. In doing so, our two goals are: (1) to give readers a broad-based overview of key issues relating to each context, and (2) to show readers important linkages among the contexts.

We organize the chapter as follows. We first present discussion of the legal context of campus crime, which includes both the judicial and legislative arenas. Here, we discuss postsecondary institutional liability for criminal victimizations occurring on campus property, as well as explore important legislative developments focusing on campus crime and security issues. Next, we examine the social context of campus crime, that is, important social scientific studies of campus crime and security. Following this, we examine the security context of campus crime, which includes discussing the development of professional campus police agencies, issues relating to their development, and the increasingly important role that information technology security plays on college campuses. We conclude the chapter by presenting important linkages across the three contexts and suggest that policy–federal, state, or on a single campus–is implicitly or explicitly an overarching theme that also ties together the contexts.

The Legal Context of Campus Crime

Generally, the legal context involves two separate but related branches of government: the judicial and the legislative. In the former arena, precedentsetting court decisions arising from lawsuits filed by students and their parents continue to shape campus crime security policy. Through these cases, courts have held institutions liable for foreseeable victimization against their students occurring on their campuses as a breach of express or implied contract. In the legislative arena, general sentiment during the early 1990s in Congress and state legislatures was that campus administrators and staff, lax in the enforcement of campus security, led to college and university students being at high risk for violent victimization, including murder. Media reports, victims' testimony at Congressional hearings, and campus advocacy groups fueled this perception (see Fisher, Hartman, Cullen, & Turner, 2002; Fisher, Sloan, Cullen, & Lu, 1998). Legislative reaction was to pass new laws or amend existing statutes to require college and universities to annually report and disseminate information about crime on their campuses. Mandates also included that campuses provide to interested parties, descriptions of security policies, protocols and programs, such as the availability of crime prevention education and victim services, incident reporting, filing criminal complaints, and initiating student disciplinary procedures.

These federal and state laws, as discussed below, created among some observers not only the perception of improved campus safety, but also increased institutional liability for crimes committed on campus. To understand better these issues, we review developments in the judicial and legislative arenas in the following discussion.

The Judicial Arena: Institutional Liability

Campus crime victims and their parents have repeatedly sued postsecondary institutions for damages resulting from injuries incurred during the commission of criminal incident. Smith (1995) described how the late 1970s first saw these lawsuits arising, but that postsecondary institutions did not feel their impact until the early 1980s. By the end of the 1980s, according to Smith (1995), this type of litigation had become more frequent because plaintiffs were winning their lawsuits. By the 1990s, colleges and universities were systematically responding to the threat of these lawsuits and newly passed congressional and state-level reporting mandates relating to campus security by upgrading security procedures and warning the campus community about crimes occurring on campus.

THEORIES OF LIABILITY. For some time, the courts have ruled that a third party (e.g., a college or university) is liable for damages incurred by the victim only under very specific circumstances (Burling, 2003). Within the context of an educational setting, to establish liability, a plaintiff must prove: (1) the postsecondary institution *owed a duty* to the plaintiff, (2) the institution *breached that duty*, (3) the *plaintiff suffered injuries*, and (4) if the *school had not acted (or failed to act) as it did*, the plaintiff would not have been injured. Burling (2003, p. 21) argued that decisions determining when and under what circumstances a postsecondary institution will be legally liable for damages suffered by an on-campus crime victim constitute "a maze of conflicting and inconsistent analysis." Burling (2003, p. 21) further noted that "What is worse, there is no clear line of cases leading to a coherent analysis."¹

Burling (2003) suggested that three theories of liability have evolved that define possible relationships and therefore, certain duties owed by a postsecondary institution to its students. The first, known as the "special relationship" theory, is defined within the specific context of the parties' relationship such that one party (the postsecondary institution) has a duty to act. For a college or university, this relationship exists because students and parents expect the school to have a commitment to its students' well-being. The second theory