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Book Review

Daniel W. Feldman

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For questions not fully answered by Mr. Jayson, his footnotes should provide the attorney with the citations necessary in order to begin his own individual research on any particular point of law. The appendix contains a handy collection of forms and copies of various statutes under which the federal government may be sued in tort. The index to a reference work such as this is of great importance, and Mr. Jayson is to be congratulated on the thoroughness and usefulness of his index, which will save many hours for the practitioner.

There has been a real need for such a work. We should be grateful to Mr. Jayson for so competently and completely filling this need. With this work on his shelf, the small office, general practitioner no longer will have an excuse for playing federal tort claims by ear. He will now be able to locate the relevant law and the applicable statutory provisions as to his claim in a short period of time. *Handling Federal Tort Claims* belongs in every law office and law library.

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*Reviewed by Daniel W. Feldman**

LAW, LIBERTY, AND PSYCHIATRY, by Thomas S. Szasz, M.D., Published by The McMillan Company, New York, 281 pp. 1963.

What should a man do when faced with criticism? The prophets of old were critics of their times. Dr. Szasz is a latter day prophet crying out against the injustice and indignity visited upon those labeled "mentally ill." He is himself a reputable psychiatrist and psychoanalyst. He offers case histories to substantiate the fact of this injury and attempts to explain how this happens by citing the human foibles of those involved. Self interest, indifference, negligence, misinformation and others are suggested. Current commitment procedures, he points out, rest almost entirely on the judgment of psychiatrists. However, unlike other settings in which one man can decide the fate of another, there are no comparable safeguards against arbitrary action by psychiatrists and no remedy for those injured as a result. Psy-

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chiatrists, in passing judgment as to sanity, profess a knowledge they do not truly possess.¹

The author describes how they are encouraged in this role by judges, district attorneys, relatives of patients, and the public at large. It may be, as the author feels, that unwarranted reliance has been placed on the personal integrity of psychiatrists. The response to this book, by Dr. Szasz's colleagues, suggests the vituperative outburst of angry men rather than dedicated scientists, and thus lends credence to his argument.² If the author has not presented a view that is well settled, he has at least stated a *prima facie* case and one worthy of examination by those who care to uphold the rights of the weak or seek remedies for their injuries.

¹ Gaylin, "Psychiatry and the Law: Partners in Crime," 8 Columbia Univ. Forum 23 (1965).

² Davidson, "The New War on Psychiatry," 121 Amer. J. of Psychiatry 528 (1964); Slovenko, "The Psychiatric Patient, Liberty and the Law," *Ibid.* at 534, and see discussion, *ibid.* at 539; Glaser, "The Dichotomy Game: A Further Consideration of the Writings of Dr. Thomas Szasz," 121 Amer. J. of Psychiatry 1069 (1965).

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*Reviewed by John K. O'Toole**

THE ADDICT AND THE LAW, by Alfred R. Lindesmith. Indiana University Press. 333 pp. 1965.

This is an intense survey of the narcotics problem and the various legal and administrative efforts to solve it. Professor Lindesmith is convinced that dope addition is a disease rather than a crime and this thesis, strongly and persistently propounded, is the core of his book. More than this, the book is almost a universal and quite scathing indictment of the Federal Narcotics Bureau, its attitudes and procedures. He deplors the use of informers and the inconsistent and often arbitrary arrest and prosecution of offenders, and believes that compulsory treatment, owing to its coercive aspects, offers no medical promise. One may agree with his trepidation over the "prohibi-

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