Recent Publications

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Recent Publications

*Strain of Violence.* By Richard Maxwell Brown. New York: Oxford University Press, 1975. Pp. xiii, 386. $13.95. The author interweaves historical events and the underlying social factors to evoke a clear understanding of the pervasiveness of violence in American life. The events covered range from the American Revolution to the "black" riots of the 1960s. The arguments both pro and con relating to the use of violence are explored through those who participated in and those who protested the use of such violence. Finally, the work covers the impact which lawyers and judges have had upon this "strain of violence" which Mr. Brown so vividly portrays.

P.G.D.

*Athletics and the Law.* By Dr. Herb Appenzeller. Charlottesville: The Michie Company, 1975. Pp. 245. $9.95. Dr. Appenzeller is not an attorney and consequently his book presents an oversimplified glance at the legal problems one may encounter in the field of athletics. The book, however, does cover many of the newer areas of athletic legal problems, such as eligibility requirements for high school and college athletes, dress codes, sex discrimination and protective legislation. The book is geared primarily to the needs of the athletic coach rather than to those of the attorney, and, at best, would be a rudimentary research tool for the lawyer who is confronted with a legal problem in the field of athletics.

$9.95. The author's background gives credence to the chilling portrayal of a cancerous growth in governmental power and the parallel loss of individual freedoms. The layers of secrecy and the justifications for ever more extensive powers emerge in a logical and plausible fashion. Major leaps in executive control are shown in developments of the Johnson and Nixon administrations and in the earlier growth of the CIA as nurtured by the psychological warfare of the “Cold War” of the 1950s. The author points to the lack of an adequate challenge to this unprecedented growth of the executive arm of the government by either Congress or the press. Both, to some extent, have abandoned their role as watchdog. A grave warning is sounded for future problems by the recognition of the validity of executive privilege by the “Nixon” Supreme Court in *U.S. v. Nixon*. The book provides an excellent and timely warning of the need to remain alert to ever increasing growth of governmental powers and the dangers of lack of effective checks and balances.

J.W.G.

*Abortion and the Sanctity of Human Life: A Philosophical View.* By Baruch Brody. Cambridge and London: The MIT Press, 1975. Pp. 157. $8.95. Baruch Brody explores the moral issues surrounding the “abortion issue” and takes each argument offered to its logical extreme. Ultimately, however, the author's conclusions will be valid only if one accepts the basic premise that a fetus is a human being and is thus able to equate abortion with murder. Although Dr. Brody feels strongly that the Supreme Court should remain open to new scientific developments, he does not feel that it should maintain its neutrality on the issue of fetal “humanity.” The author apparently does not accept the arbitrariness of the trimester classifications accepted by the Supreme Court in its landmark decision *Roe v. Wade*, but advocates that the humanity of a fetus begins at the inception of brain activity. The logic is persuasive only if the basic premises are accepted. These premises are, however, at the root of the controversy about abortion.

J.W.G.