

Chapter 1

Forensic Psychology

- American Psychological Association in 2001 to recognize forensic psychology as a specialization (narrow)
- Narrow: the only individuals who should call themselves forensic psychologists are those individuals engaged in clinical practice (i.e., assessing, treating, or consulting) within the legal system. Any psychologist who spends all of his or her time conducting forensic-related research
- Broad Definitions: One of the most commonly cited examples of a broad definition of forensic psychology is the one proposed by Dr. Curt Bartol "examines aspects of human behavior directly related to the legal process and the professional practice of psychology within, or in consultation with, a legal system that embraces both civil and criminal law"
- Narrow focuses solely on the application of psychology, broad does not restrict forensic psychology to applied issues. It also focuses on the research that is required to inform applied practice in the field of forensic psychology.

Clinical Psych

- clinical forensic psychologists are broadly concerned with mental health issues as they pertain to the legal system (research, schools, prison, hospitals)
- issues: Divorce and child custody mediation; Determinations of insanity and fitness to stand trial/plead guilty; Providing expert testimony in court on questions of a psychological nature; Personnel selection (e.g., for law enforcement agencies); Conducting critical incident stress debriefings with police officers; Designing and conducting treatment programs for offenders

Forensic Psychology vs. Psychiatry

- a psychiatrist's general =medical model of mental illness, psychologists tend to view mental illness more as a product of an individual's physiology, personality, and environment.
- Researchers are much more concerned than just mental health issues

Forensic Psychologists as a legal scholar

- Less common

Psychology and Law Relationship

- “psychology is viewed as a separate discipline [to the law], examining and analyzing various components of the law [and the legal system] from a psychological perspective”
- answers questions like: are eyewitnesses accurate?

Psychology in the law relationship

- Involves the use of psych knowledge in the legal system
- Police use psych in an investigation use practices in interrogation

Psychology of the law relationship

- use of psychology to study psychology itself
- and it addresses questions such as these: What role should the police play in domestic disputes? Does the law reduce the amount of crime in our society? Why is it important to allow for discretionary decision making in the criminal justice system?

History of Forensic Psychology

1843	•	Daniel M'Naughten is found not guilty by reason of insanity in the assassination attempt on the British prime minister. This leads to the development of the "M'Naughten rule" for determining insanity.
1893	•	James McKeen Cattell of Columbia University conducts the first experiments in North America on the psychology of testimony.
1896	•	One of the earliest examples of a psychologist testifying in a criminal trial. Albert von Schrenck-Notzing's testimony deals with the effect of pretrial publicity on memory.
1908	•	Hugo Munsterberg's <i>On the Witness Stand</i> is published in the United States. A year later, John H. Wigmore's famous critique of Munsterberg's work appears.
1909-1913	•	In a series of articles, Guy Whipple introduces North American psychologists to the classic European experiments on eyewitness testimony.
1911	•	Julian Varendonck conducts a series of classic studies on the suggestibility of children in order to inform his courtroom testimony on the reliability of child witnesses.
1917	•	William Marston develops the first modern polygraph. In the same year, Louis Terman pioneers the use of psychological testing for personnel selection in U.S. law enforcement agencies.
1921	•	In <i>State v. Driver</i> , a North American psychologist testifies in court as an expert witness for the first time. However, the testimony is rejected.
1923	•	In <i>Frye v. United States</i> , the courts speak specifically to the issue of when expert testimony should be admissible.
1954	•	A brief written by social psychologists is cited in a footnote of the famous <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> decision outlawing school segregation. The citation helps validate psychology as a discipline.
1964	•	Famous personality psychologist, Hans. J. Eysenck, publishes <i>Crime and Personality</i> in which he proposes his biosocial theory of crime, viewed by some as the first testable theory of criminal behavior proposed by a psychologist.
1968-1969	•	The American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS) is founded. A few years later, the AP-LS journal <i>Law and Human Behavior</i> begins publication.
1980-1981	•	The American Psychological Association's (APA) Division 41, Psychology and Law, is established. Four years later, AP-LS merges with Division 41.
1993	•	In <i>Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals Inc.</i> , the U.S. Supreme Court lays out specific criteria for determining when scientific evidence can be admitted.
2001	•	The American Psychological Association formally recognizes forensic psychology as a specialty discipline.

History Notes: US

- Cattell (1895) conducted first experiments with eyewitness testimony