

mentioned. Third, the treatment of American legal issues and case law as they apply to counselling and ethical practice tends to limit its application for a Canadian audience. But the focus on American case law in this book *does* serve to raise the reader's awareness of and increase understanding of generic legal concepts and also invites comparison with some recent trends in Canadian case law.

In summary, perhaps the most useful aspect of this book is its invitation to readers to consider ethical issues as inherent to counselling, and also its treatment of the classical roots of modern professional ethics. Not many authors in the ethics literature have bothered with the latter; the present authors have done us a service by showing how matters of consequence in antiquity are relevant to what goes on in the modern therapist's office.

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Evans, D. R. (1997). *The Law, Standards of Practice, and Ethics in the Practice of Psychology*. Toronto: Edmond Montgomery Publications Limited. ISBN 0-920722-94-6

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*Reviewed by:* Roy V. Ferguson, University of Victoria.

This book, a first of its type in Canada, is the result of dedicated work by coordinating author Dr. David R. Evans (from the Clinical Psychology Program at the University of Western Ontario) with contributions from eleven colleagues, most of whom are practitioners rather than lawyers. The book examines statutory and case law, regulations, standards, ethics and guidelines as they apply to the practice of psychology in Ontario. Rather than maintaining a primary focus on key legislation within the province, the author wisely chose to organize the book around typical psychological activities and issues. Consequently, the material has greater appeal and applicability to practitioners. The book opens with an historical perspective of the development of ethical codes, standards of professional conduct, and regulatory legislation. It then moves to a review of the regulation of psychology in Ontario with particular reference to The Psychology Act (1991), which is included as an appendix. This review is followed by an examination of sexual and non-sexual dual relationships with practical examples and a discussion of issues provided. Again, relevant legislation, standards, and ethics relating to dual relationships are included in an appendix.

The book's middle chapters deal with a broad range of issues of relevance to clinical practitioners, including informed consent, confidentiality, and an examination of the issues relating to client information and records—including a look at access and privacy legislation as they apply to clinical practice. Among other topics covered are the role of codes of conduct and ethical guidelines, custody and access assessments, the assessment of young offenders, and the treatment of correctional clients. The final three chapters of the book examine the business aspects of practice, the practitioner as expert witness, and, finally, action and counteraction relating to malpractice.

The book's content is strong and well organized across the chapters; considering the number of contributors, this is an accomplishment of some significance. While not an easy read, this is more a function of the nature of the content than the existence of multiple contributors. In fact, the format and style across chapters is remarkably consistent.

*The Law, Standards of Practice, and Ethics in the Practice of Psychology* reflects key issues relating to the practice of psychology, providing a solid foundation of accurate and authoritative information on legislation, standards, and ethics as they apply to clinical practice. It represents a significant contribution to the literature addressing the development and practice of psychology within Canada. While of particular interest to psychologists in Ontario, the content of the book also has general application to psychologists in other provinces, as well as to counsellors and practitioners in allied health and human service disciplines.

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Uhlemann, M. R. & Turner, D. (Eds.) (1998). *A Legal Handbook for the Helping Professional* (2nd ed). Victoria, BC: The Sedgewick Society for Consumer and Public Education, 437 pp. ISBN 1-55058-118-X

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*Reviewed by:* John B. Stewart, University of New Brunswick.

This comprehensive handbook is composed of 17 chapters written by a number of contributors, whose expertise lies with legal topics which impact the work of helping professionals. Each chapter ends with a series of questions and answers which highlight pertinent information/concerns for helping professionals.

The handbook is divided into three sections. The first section presents basic knowledge about the legal system and how it influences the helping professional's practice. This section contains two chapters on the Canadian legal system, and a number of other chapters on topics including adoptions, child protection, family law, family violence, youth justice, education, aboriginal self-determination, freedom of information and protection of privacy, mental health, rights of persons with physical and mental disabilities and legal liability. In the second section, skills for advocacy, conflict resolution, giving legal evidence and expert testimony are considered. These skills are useful for those professionals who work to achieve the dignity and respect their clients deserve. The last section contains some ideas and speculations about possible future directions in the law and how these may affect the role and practice of helpers.

This aptly titled handbook is well written and easy to understand, even if the reader does not have a legal background. It provides detailed information about the legal system, including both federal and provincial laws which most directly impact helping professionals. Most of the provincial illustrations are drawn from the British Columbia legal system.

I think this book represents a valuable educational resource for helping professionals. The chapters are instructive for counsellors, psychologists and