We’re Here to Help
When Guardianship Goes Wrong
Diane Dimond

Explosive and compelling, We’re Here to Help tells the human stories behind the headlines and shows how to avoid the risks of voluntary or involuntary guardianship.

The state-run guardianship system, called conservatorship in some states, is largely unregulated, ill-understood, and increasingly populated by financially motivated predators. Just how guardianship works, and its real-life effects, remained a mystery to most until the very public case of pop star Britney Spears. It suddenly became clear that those conscripted into the system lose all their civil rights in the process. Reformers estimate that there are currently 1.5 to 2 million Americans under court control, but no one can for sure say how many are affected because no government entity keeps track of citizens who have lost the right to determine their own fate.

Established in the late 1800s, the guardianship system was designed to assist the most vulnerable citizens: the elderly and the physically or intellectually disabled. While guardianship has been beneficial to many “wards of the court,” this ever expanding and little-understood process can be a judicial rollercoaster from which there is seldom an escape, and which often leads to financial devastation for the ward. Each year, fifty billion dollars belonging to wards are placed under the control of court appointees, tempting bad actors. As investigative journalist Diane Dimond discovers, the number of exploitative and abusive guardianship cases nationwide demands our urgent attention.

Diane Dimond is an award-winning freelance journalist, author, syndicated columnist, and former television correspondent who specializes in crime and justice topics. She is the author of Be Careful Who You Love: Inside the Michael Jackson Case, Cirque Du Salahi: Be Careful Who You Trust, and Thinking Outside the Crime and Justice Box.
The Common Flaw
Needless Complexity in the Courts and 50 Ways to Reduce It

Thomas G. Moukawsher

A sitting judge makes the compelling argument that we should simplify lawsuits to create a more humane and accessible legal system.

Americans are losing faith in their courts. After long delays, judges often get rid of cases for technical reasons, or force litigants to settle rather than issue a decision. When they do decide cases, we can’t understand why.

The Common Flaw seeks to rid the American lawsuit of this needless complexity. The book proposes fifty changes from the filing of a complaint in court to the drafting of appellate decisions to replace the legal system’s formalism with a kind of humanism. Thomas G. Moukawsher calls for courts that decide cases promptly based more on the facts than the law, that prioritize the parties involved over lawyers, that consider the consequences for the people and the public, and that use words we can all understand. Sure to spark an important conversation about court reform, The Common Flaw makes the case for a more effective and credible legal system with warmth and humor, incorporating cartoons alongside insightful reflection.

Thomas G. Moukawsher is a Connecticut Superior Court judge, who has spent nearly forty years studying, making, and administering law. He has been a lawyer, a legislator, a lobbyist, and for nearly ten years a complex litigation judge. Judge Moukawsher served in local government and as a member of the Connecticut General Assembly. He also acted as counsel to the Connecticut Democratic Party. Inside the judiciary, for twenty years, he was one of the country’s leading litigators in pension fraud cases in federal court. He co-chaired the American Bar Association Committee on Employee Benefits and was a co-author and editor of its book, Employee Benefits Law. He is a sustaining life fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a member of the Madison Council at the Library of Congress. He earned a juris doctorate from the University of Connecticut School of Law where he was an editor of the Connecticut Law Review and a degree in English from The Citadel where he edited The Citadel Review.

“In this important book Judge Moukawsher provides an essential roadmap for reconsidering the priorities and aims of the judicial process, placing humanism and the public trust at the center of an important agenda for reform.” — Paula A. Franzese, Peter W. Rodino Professor of Law, Seton Hall University School of Law

“A New England judge with a Southerner’s flair for metaphor, he criticized ‘uselessly perfect teacher evaluations’ as part of a rating system, ‘that is little more than cotton candy in a rainstorm.’” — New York Times

“Hard to believe a court ruling could be compelling? Try this: ‘The state’s definition of what it means to have a secondary education is like a sugar- cube boat. It dissolves before it’s half launched.’” — Chicago Tribune
You Had a Job for Life
Story of a Company Town

Jamie Sayen

A local story with profound national implications, now available as a paperback with a new preface by the author.

Absentee owners. Single-minded concern for the bottom line. Friction between workers and management. Hostile takeovers at the hands of avaricious and unaccountable multinational interests. The story of America’s industrial decline is all too familiar—and yet, somehow, still hard to fathom. Jamie Sayen spent years interviewing residents of Groveton, New Hampshire, about the century-long saga of their company town. The community’s paper mill had been its economic engine since the early twentieth century. Purchased and revived by local owners in the postwar decades, the mill merged with Diamond International in 1968. It fell victim to Anglo-French financier James Goldsmith’s hostile takeover in 1982, then suffered through a series of owners with no roots in the community until its eventual demise in 2007. Drawing on conversations with scores of former mill workers, Sayen reconstructs the mill’s human history: the smells of pulp and wood, the injuries and deaths, the struggles of women for equal pay and fair treatment, and the devastating impact of global capitalism on a small New England town. This is a heartbreaking story of the decimation of industrial America.

Jamie Sayen is a writer and environmental activist living in New Hampshire. He is the author of Einstein in America: The Scientist’s Conscience in the Age of Hitler and Hiroshima. His new book Children of the New Forest (Yale) will also be published this fall.
Architecture in Salem
An Illustrated Guide

Bryant F. Tolles, Jr., with Carolyn K. Tolles


Salem, Massachusetts is home to one of the largest extant collections of historical architecture in the entire nation. In this long-awaited new edition, noted architectural historian Bryant F. Tolles, Jr., presents an illustrated guide and walking tour covering more than three centuries of building styles and types. The book discusses over 350 buildings and complexes, with individual entries and photographs of nearly 230 structures. The material has been arranged according to eight tour districts, each accompanied by an introduction and a map.

A joy for the avid walker and arm-chair enthusiast alike, this book is an essential guide to the architecture of Salem from the early seventeenth century through the Georgian, Federal, Victorian, modern, and contemporary periods. Updated with new color illustrations, and a new preface by Lynda Roscoe Hartigen, Executive Director and CEO Peabody Essex Museum, and new foreword by Steven Mallory, Manager of Historic Structures and Landscapes at the Peabody Essex Museum.

Bryant F. Tolles, Jr., is professor emeritus of history at the University of Delaware. He is the author of Resort Hotels of the Adirondacks: The Architecture of a Summer Paradise, 1850–1950, Summer Cottages in the White Mountains: The Architecture of Leisure and Recreation, 1870 to 1930, The Grand Resort Hotels of the White Mountains: A Vanishing Architectural Legacy, and New Hampshire Architecture: An Illustrated Guide. Carolyn K. Tolles worked in the nonprofit development field much of her career, commencing with Historic Salem (Massachusetts), Inc. where she had extensive exposure to historic architecture. She continued in this area at academic and community organizations in Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Hampshire until she retired. Over many years she has also been involved in her husband Bryant's book projects.
The Heller Social Impact Case Collection
Reimagining Capitalism through Case-Based Learning

Edited by Carole Carlson, Matthew Kriegsman, and Joel Cutcher-Gershenfeld

A pathbreaking collection of case studies that spotlights the corporate sector’s societal obligations.

At a time of deep and pervasive global challenges, future CEOs and administrators need to apply management principles to social impact cases. Today, top business schools across the country are meeting the moment, teaching courses about socially responsible investing and debating ways companies can stem the effects of climate change.

The case studies collected here are an invaluable resource for today’s students and tomorrow’s leaders. Chapters address an array of business sectors, including consumer goods, finance, health care, higher education, manufacturing, nongovernmental organizations, social services, and transportation. A teacher’s guide is available online to educators.

Carole Carlson is professor of the practice and director of the MBA program at the Heller School for Policy and Management at Brandeis University. Matthew Kriegsman is senior program manager at Amazon where he leads strategic projects for Amazon Air’s network planning team. Joel Cutcher-Gershenfeld is professor and associate dean for academics at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University.
The Weavers of Trautenau
Jewish Female Forced Labor in the Holocaust
Janine P. Holc

A sympathetic history that focuses on the experiences of women and girls during the Holocaust and draws on new archival sources.

Beginning in late 1940, over three thousand Jewish girls and young women were forced from their family homes in Sosnowiec, Poland, and its surrounding towns to worksites in Germany. Believing that they were helping their families to survive, these young people were thrust into a world where they labored at textile work for twelve hours a day, lived in barracks with little food, and received only periodic news of events back home. By late 1943, their barracks had been transformed into concentration camps, where they were held until liberation in 1945.

Using a fresh approach to testimony collections, Janine P. Holc reconstructs the forced labor experiences of young Jewish females, as told by the women who survived and shared their testimony. Incorporating new source material, the book carefully constructs survivors’ stories while also taking a theoretical approach, one alert to socially constructed, intersectional systems of exploitation and harm. The Weavers of Trautenau elucidates the limits and possibilities of social relations inside camps and the challenges of moral and emotional repair in the face of indescribable loss during the Holocaust.

Janine P. Holc is professor of political science at Loyola University Maryland. She is the author of The Politics of Trauma and Memory Activism: Polish-Jewish Relations Today.
Antisemitism and the Politics of History

Edited by Scott Ury and Guy Miron

A sophisticated contribution to debates in both the academic and the public realms regarding the nature of antisemitism today.

This groundbreaking anthology addresses the history and challenges of using “antisemitism” and related terms as tools for historical analysis and public discourse. Drawing together over twenty essays by prominent scholars from Europe, Israel, and the United States, the volume encourages readers to rethink assumptions regarding the nature and meaning of Jewish history and the history of relations between Jews and non-Jews.

The book begins with a revised and updated version of David Engel’s seminal essay “Away from a Definition of Antisemitism.” Subsequent contributions by renowned specialists in ancient, medieval, and modern history, religious studies, and other fields explore the various and changing definitions and uses of the term “antisemitism” in a range of contexts, including ancient Rome and Greece, the Byzantine Empire, medieval Europe, early modern and modern Europe, North America, and the United Kingdom. The volume also includes a section that focuses on the Second World War, including the Holocaust and its memory. Engel offers a contemporary response to conclude the book.

First published in Hebrew in 2020 as a special issue of the journal Zion: A Quarterly for Research in Jewish History in cooperation with the Zalman Shazar Center in Jerusalem, this compelling collection has already had an impact on the study of antisemitism in Israel. It is certain to become a critical resource for scholars, policymakers, and journalists researching antisemitism, Holocaust studies, and related fields.

Scott Ury is a senior lecturer in the Department of Jewish History and director of the Eva and Marc Besen Institute for the Study of Historical Consciousness at Tel Aviv University. He is the author of Barricades and Banners: The Revolution of 1905 and the Transformation of Warsaw Jewry. Guy Miron is professor of history at the Open University of Israel. He is the author and editor of several books, including The Waning of Emancipation: Jewish History, Memory, and the Rise of Fascism in Germany, France, and Hungary and Space and Time under Persecution: The German-Jewish Experience in the Third Reich.
Jewish Universalisms
Mendelssohn, Cohen, and Humanity’s Highest Good
Jeremy Fogel

An original and comprehensive comparison of the universalisms of two major modern Jewish philosophers.

Any version of universalism relevant to a more attentive, pluralistic, and postcolonial outlook would balance the urgent current need for a universalistic perspective with the desire to maintain the richness of human diversity. The modern Jewish philosophers who sought to partake in the Enlightenment’s universalistic vision while maintaining their distinct identities as members of a religious minority within Europe offer insightful answers.

Jewish Universalisms analyzes how two major figures, Moses Mendelssohn and Hermann Cohen, dealt with the perceived tension between the universal values characteristic of the Enlightenment and aspects of Judaism often depicted as particularistic and parochial. Jeremy Fogel joins their lively debate in modern Jewish philosophy, offering a comparative examination of these thinkers and analyzing their worldviews from an innovative axiological perspective. Fogel writes that to gain a precise understanding of how Mendelssohn and Cohen argued for the concordance of Judaism and universalism, one must first seek out what they delineated as ultimately valuable. Then one can work out how that highest good and the method of valuation it sustains are universal.

Jeremy Fogel teaches at Tel Aviv University; the Kibbutzim College of Education, Technology, and the Arts; and Alma, where he is academic director. He is the author of Tel Aviv Is Water and Other Seasidian Thoughts.