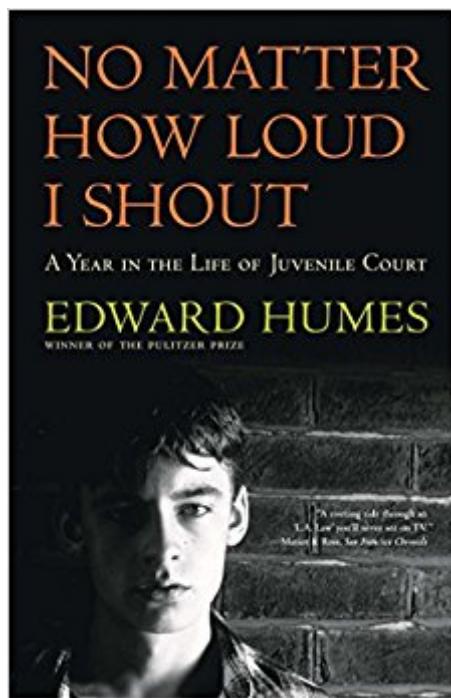


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# NO MATTER HOW LOUD I SHOUT : A Year In The Life Of Juvenile Court



## Synopsis

Now updated with a new introduction and afterword, this award-winning examination of the nation's largest juvenile criminal justice system in Los Angeles by a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist is "an important book with a message of great urgency, especially to all concerned with the future of America's children" (Booklist). In an age when violence and crime by young people is again on the rise, *No Matter How Loud I Shout* offers a rare look inside the juvenile court system that deals with these children and the impact decisions made in the courts had on the rest of their lives. Granted unprecedented access to the Los Angeles Juvenile Court, including the judges, the probation officers, and the children themselves, Edward Humes creates an unforgettable portrait of a chaotic system that is neither saving our children in danger nor protecting us from adolescent violence. Yet he shows us there is also hope in the handful of courageous individuals working tirelessly to triumph over seemingly insurmountable odds. Weaving together a poignant, compelling narrative with razor-sharp investigative reporting, *No Matter How Loud I Shout* is a convincingly reported, profoundly disturbing discussion of the Los Angeles juvenile court's failings, providing terrifying evidence of the system's inability to slow juvenile crime or to make even a reasonable stab at rehabilitating troubled young offenders. Humes draws an alarming portrait of a judicial system in disarray.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is one powerful book: it will grab you with vivid stories about individual kids, draw you in with honesty and compassion, and amaze you with alarming details about how the juvenile justice

system works (or rather, doesn't work) in America. Anyone interested in the problem of crime should read Edward Humes's gripping account of how future criminals are shaped in youth, and how the system misses its chance to help them before they're lost for good. As Richard Bernstein writes in the New York Times, "There are many admirable things about Mr. Humes's book, which, despite its grim subject matter, has a narrative power that keeps you reading right to the end. One of them is that Mr. Humes is a shrewd and perceptive observer of his young subjects ... [and he] allows himself to feel sympathy for the young people whose lives and crimes he describes.... At the same time, Mr. Humes never exonerates bad children for their badness." *No Matter How Loud I Shout* was a finalist for the 1997 Edgar Award in Fact Crime.

After being granted access by court order to a system that is usually closed to the public, Pulitzer prize-winning journalist Humes (*Buried Secrets*) spent 1994 surveying the largely futile attempts of Los Angeles to deal with its juvenile crime. He concentrates here on a few who have not let themselves be overwhelmed by the deluge of defendants-80,000 cases are pending at any given time: Judge Roosevelt Dorn, who is also a clergyman; Deputy DA Peggy Beckstrand, who finally leaves the system to work on adult cases; Probation Officer Sharon Stegall, who tries to cope with the insurmountable burden of supervising 200 juveniles; Shery Gold, a public defender who also wants to move to adult courts. Humes follows closely the cases of seven young people who were caught up in the system, three of whom have been saved by it?maybe. First serial to *Glamour* and *L.A. Magazine*. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Used this book for a class on the inadequacies of the juvenile legal system in rehabilitating youth. It was a wonderful book that gave a first hand description of going through the judicial system and incarceration of youth

this book is an eye-opening and honest look at how the juvenile justice system works and its many failings. humes really examines all the pieces of the puzzle and gives unbiased portrayals of how it all plays out. he deals with specific cases and then follows the children through out the process. some get lost and some make it, but many never escape the system despite the work they do. it is riveting and hard to read- especially knowing that there is little that can be done without a lot of hard work and funding. i highly suggest everyone read it; whether they are going into politics, criminology, psychology, or just interested in the process.

I got this book for a class. We didn't read the whole thing (just excerpts) but it was an eye opening look at the complexity of our juvenile system. It's not simply because they are bad kids thus they are where they are. As in most things in life... what's at the surface does not begin to describe the real core issues that toss kids from system to system. Definitely recommend this book to anyone working with kids and those interested in understanding social issues!

I am in Law Enforcement and found this book to be amazingly educational. The author doesn't pull any punches. She tells it like it is. An excellent and inspiring read!

Needed it for my college sociology class. Cheaper than buying in bookstore. It's a good read, but when you read about Judge Dorn, you want to strangle him. If you do more research on him and see what he's been up too since this book has been written, a little justice for him has been done.

This book is an all around great book! It is interesting and gives you a glimpse into the juvenile justice system and how has failed our teens. If you are in any way interested in the justice system (both juvenile and adult justice system) I would recommend reading this book!

I purchased this book as a required textbook for my juvenile delinquency class. I was not expecting to become so emotionally attached! This book is amazing but terribly sad. It sheds light on some of the glaring problems in the juvenile justice system. Worth every penny.

Truly eye opening! I highly recommend this to anyone interested in the juvenile court system.

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