
antisemitism in the structurally open society of America different is that it never became institutional, it was not supported overtly or covertly by the authorities or by men of visibility. Not even the successes of Duke or Buchanan in seeking presidential nomination change significantly this overall picture. Hungary a hundred years after Tiszaeszlár sees the rebirth of conservative, right-wing étatist tendencies, with the accompanying nationalist, antisemitic overtones. Lindemann thanks Jeszenszky, who was visiting in the US as Fulbright Exchange scholar and who is now, since 1990, the foreign minister of Hungary, a member of the ruling Hungarian Democratic Forum, the party which describes itself as national-Christian and which has a loud populist faction within its extreme right, complete with antisemitic vocabulary and sentiments.

Reading this book one is presented with a comprehensive view of the ideological and historical developments of antisemitism. The saga of the Affairs teaches us that the way a society and its institutions react to antisemitism can be the litmus test of democracy. Lindemann's analysis and comparison of France, the United States and Russia from this point of view is very potent and, furthermore, deeply and excruciatingly relevant now as we are entering a new century.

VERA RANKI*

Magistrates at Work, by Sheila Brown, Open University Press, 1991.

Observing modern lay justices at their task in England is not to experience bumbling nonprofessionals doing their best to perform a perceived civic duty; one can now get the sense that these Benches actually know what they are doing. This is due to much effort over recent years in providing training/education in relation to their functions. The relevance of this book (by a 30 year old lecturer in Criminology) to New South Wales, or indeed Australia, is not to suggest a departure from salaried magistrates with legal qualifications, but in the approach judicial officers at this level — whether lay or salaried — take to a particular aspect of their work: their interrelation with young clients, families and professional workers in the juvenile courts. It is a research document arising from the author's observations of hearings, discussions with participants (including justices and their clerks) and analysis of documentary sources of information. Six courts from differently composed demographic areas were chosen for the exercise, scrutinising the work of 92 magistrates who willingly involved themselves in the study.

Early attention is given to the use of and dependence upon *social information (background) reports* prepared for the court. Observation and quoted comments enlighten the reader as to the justices' views of the social work professionals, instinctive reactions to the routine matters expected to be canvassed, and the extent to which those expectations are met in relation to the area of social control in the environment of law and order tempered towards the needs of children. The nature of report-writing for the court's

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