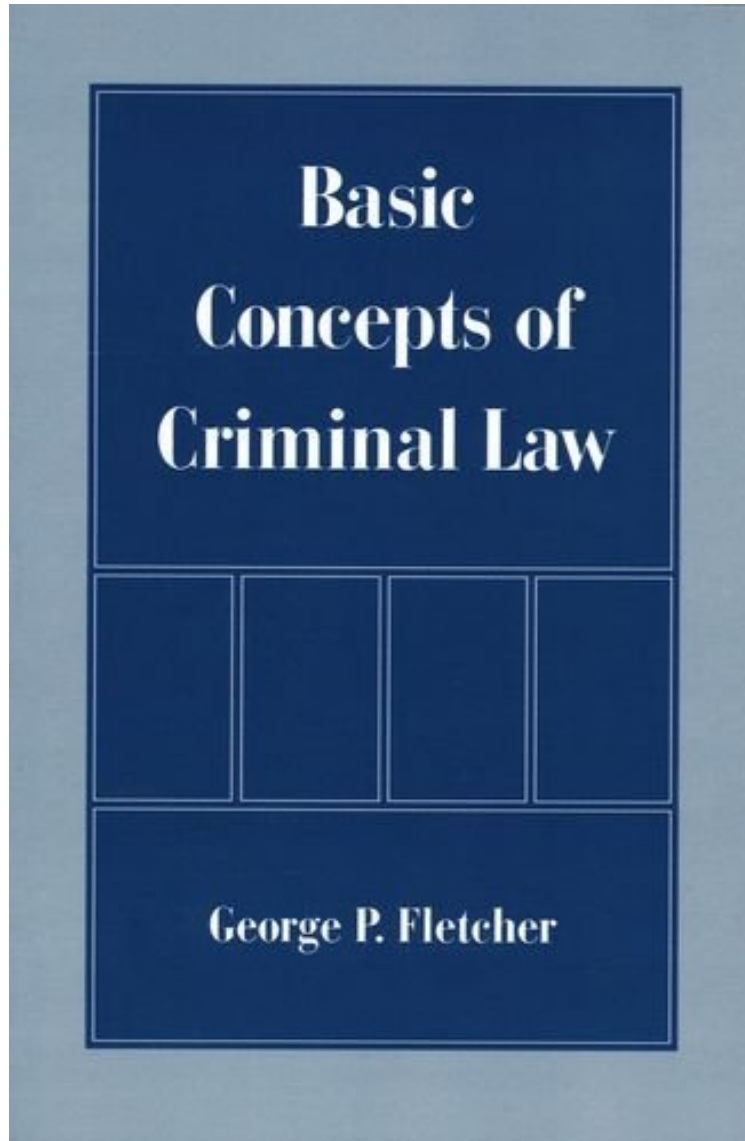


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## Basic Concepts of Criminal Law

*Von George P. Fletcher*  
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**Von George P. Fletcher : Basic Concepts of Criminal Law** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Basic Concepts of Criminal Law:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.  
Exposing Criminal LawVon areaderrPeople find Fletcher's general views of criminal law controversial at times because ideas of criminal justice vary from region to region or person to person. However, in "Basic Concepts of Criminal Law," Professor Fletcher captures the very essence of criminal law by delineating twelve basic concepts of

criminal law that serve as a common backdrop for various and diverse understandings of criminal law. As Fletcher analyzes the "deep structure" of criminal law, he not only presents his own expert opinions but also provides readers with a framework of law through which they can contemplate the issues of criminal law. Legal scholars, academic students, and the curious public will find Fletcher's "Basic Concepts of Criminal Law" to be dynamically entertaining and stimulating.

**Kurzbeschreibung** In the United States today criminal justice can vary from state to state, as various states alter the Modern Penal Code to suit their own local preferences and concerns. In Eastern Europe, the post-Communist countries are quickly adopting new criminal codes to reflect their specific national concerns as they gain autonomy from what was once a centralized Soviet policy. As commonalities among countries and states disintegrate, how are we to view the basic concepts of criminal law as a whole? Eminent legal scholar George Fletcher acknowledges that criminal law is becoming increasingly localized, with every country and state adopting their own conception of punishable behavior, determining their own definitions of offenses. Yet by taking a step back from the details and linguistic variations of the criminal codes, Fletcher is able to perceive an underlying unity among diverse systems of criminal justice. Challenging common assumptions, he discovers a unity that emerges not on the surface of statutory rules and case law but in the underlying debates that inform them. *Basic Concepts of Criminal Law* identifies a set of twelve distinctions that shape and guide the controversies that inevitably break out in every system of criminal justice. Devoting a chapter to each of these twelve concepts, Fletcher maps out what he considers to be the deep structure of all systems of criminal law. Understanding these distinctions will not only enable students to appreciate the universal fundamental ideas of criminal law, but will enable them to understand the significance of local details and variations. This accessible illustration of the unity of diverse systems of criminal justice will provoke and inform students and scholars of law and the philosophy of law, as well as lawyers seeking a better understanding of the law they practice.

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**Synopsis** Criminal law, according to George Fletcher, has become localized law in the sense that each country and, within the US, each state has adopted its own set of criminal codes, conceptions of punishable behaviour, etc. In this book, Fletcher maintains that there is much greater unity among diverse systems of criminal justice than commonly realized, and that any adequate system of criminal law necessarily must address a set of universal, basic issues. He introduces, and sets out, the twelve concepts that shape and guide every system of criminal justice, knowledge of which is essential to understanding the structure of the law and its local and national variations.