



Studies in the News

February 28, 2018

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"First Person Political: Legislative Life and the Meaning of Public Service" by Grant Reeher

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

***The Cost and Consequences of Sexual Violence in California.* By Ted Miller, et al. California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA). Feb. 2018. 27 p.**

<http://www.calcasa.org/the-cost-consequences-of-sexual-violence-in-california/>

"[T]he conservative estimate is that the tangible costs of sexual violence in California, including medical and mental health care, prevention, investigation, sanctioning, treatment, and victim services, totaled over \$9 billion in 2012. When intangible costs, such as lost quality of life and lost work productivity, are included, the total costs increase to \$140 billion. This translates to an average of \$3,700 for each resident of California per year. At least \$2.9 billion, or two percent of total costs, come from tangible local and state government spending and federal funding allocated to California.... Prevention programs would lead to substantial cost savings: every prevented rape of an adult could save up to \$163,800, and every prevented rape or sexual assault of a child could save up to \$227,700."

CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY

***The Millennial Generation: A demographic bridge to America's diverse future.* By William Frey. Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program. Jan. 2018. 52 p.**

https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2018-jan_brookings-metro_millennials-a-demographic-bridge-to-americas-diverse-future.pdf

“By the mid-2040s, racial and ethnic minorities are projected to make up over half of all Americans, but the 2020 census will show that the postmillennial generation—people who are younger than millennials—will already be minority white. This means that millennials, now 44 percent minority, will pave the way for the generations behind them as workers, consumers, and leaders in business and government in their acceptance by and participation in tomorrow’s more racially diverse America.... With an emphasis on its unique racial diversity, this report compares the millennial generation with earlier counterparts at the same stage of life and assesses how different segments of the millennial population are faring.”

ECONOMY

“Stuck! The Law and Economics of Residential Stagnation.” By David Schleicher. *Yale Law Journal*, vol. 27, no. 1 (Oct. 2017). 77 p.

<https://www.yalelawjournal.org/article/stuck-the-law-and-economics-of-residential-stagnation>

“[P]hysical mobility of workers and families: between states, between rural to urban areas, between suburbs and inner cities ... offers possibilities for adjusting to economic shocks and for seeking out opportunities ... part of what makes a fluid and flexible market economy work.... ‘But today, the number of Americans who leave home for new opportunities is in decline [as] interstate migration rate has fallen substantially since the 1980s.... [M]obility rates are lower among disadvantaged groups ... despite becoming “more important” to individual economic advancement. More troubling still, Americans are no longer moving from poor regions to rich ones.’ ... [S]tate and local economic policies (and a few federal ones) are major contributors to this lack of mobility [because they are] often much more strongly affected by those voters already in place who prefer stability, rather than by those who have not yet moved to the area and might prefer evolution and growth.” ([Conversable Economist](#), Dec. 7, 2017).

EDUCATION

***Enrollment and Employees in Postsecondary Institutions, Fall 2016; and Financial Statistics and Academic Libraries, Fiscal Year 2016.* By Scott A. Ginder, et al. U.S. Department of Education. Dec. 2017. 33 p.**

<https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2018/2018002.pdf>.

“The number of college students enrolled in at least one online course -- and the proportion of all enrolled students who are studying online -- continued to rise at U.S. institutions in the 2016 academic year, newly released federal data show. The statistics, part of a major release of provisional data on enrollments, employment and other topics from the Education Department's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, provide the most up-to-date information on enrollments in online and distance education. The overarching story is a familiar one: even as overall enrollment in postsecondary institutions stays flat (unlike recent numbers from the National Student Clearinghouse, the federal data show enrollments staying roughly constant, not declining), online enrollments climb.” ([Inside Higher Ed](#), Jan. 5, 2018).

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Safeguarding California Plan: 2018 Update; California's Climate Adaptation Strategy. By Keali'i Bright, et al. California Natural Resources Agency. Jan. 2018. 249 p.

<http://resources.ca.gov/docs/climate/safeguarding/update2018/safeguarding-california-plan-2018-update.pdf>

"The 2018 Update to the *Safeguarding California Plan* is a roadmap showing how California's state government is taking action to respond to climate change. It clearly lays out the next steps to achieve the State's goals and how those objectives will be achieved. Over 1,000 ongoing actions and next steps, organized by 76 policy recommendations across 11 policy sectors, were developed through the scientific and policy expertise of staff from 38 state agencies.... This roadmap serves as a transparent and accountable tool for the public to evaluate the State's progress."

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

California State Capitol Annex Project: Planning Study December 2017. CSHQA, Inc. Dec. 27, 2017. 84 p.

<http://annex.assembly.ca.gov/content/annex-planning-study>

"Knock it down and build a better one. That's the recommendation of a long-awaited study on the Legislature's options for remaking its 66-year-old annex, the warren of offices attached to the 19th century Capitol. The report by design firm CSHQA of Sacramento encourages lawmakers to consider a \$543 million replacement, building a larger structure that would improve safety, expand workspaces and offer visitors an interactive experience to learn about California government. It attempts to resolve a debate that has centered on whether the Legislature should renovate or replace the six-story annex because of the building's well-documented narrow hallways, limited exits, barriers that restrict access to people with physical disabilities, leaks and its lack of safety features like sprinklers." ([Sacramento Bee](#), Feb. 21, 2018).

HEALTH

The State of Mental Health in America 2018. By Theresa Nguyen, et al. Mental Health America. 2017. 63 p.

<http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/sites/default/files/2018%20The%20State%20of%20MH%20in%20America%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

One in five adults in the U.S. have a mental health condition (about 40 million Americans, which is more than the populations of New York and Florida combined). While more Americans have access to healthcare services, especially among states that expanded Medicaid, 56% of Americans adults with a mental illness did not receive treatment. From 2012 to 2015, rates of youth with severe depression increased from 5.9% to 8.2%. Despite the increased need for mental health services, the U.S. has a shortage of mental health providers. California's overall ranking is close to the national average (24th), based on a combined score of 15 measures on prevalence of mental illness and low access to care.

HUMAN SERVICES

The CalWORKs Program. By Caroline Danielson, et al. Public Policy Institute of California. Jan. 2018. 2 p.

http://www.ppic.org/wp-content/uploads/jtf_calworksjtf.pdf

“Established in 1998, the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program provides cash assistance to very low-income families with few assets. Most eligible parents must make progress toward finding and keeping a job or face loss of their grant; children remain eligible regardless of their parents’ program status. As of 2017, the vast majority (81.4%) of CalWORKs recipients are children. CalWORKs is jointly funded by federal, state, and county governments.” This brief provides an overview of CalWORKs program – how the program’s funding, caseloads and requirements have changed since its establishment.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

***Not Ready for Takeoff: Face Scans at Airport Departure Gates.* By Harrison Rudolph, et al. Georgetown Law Center on Privacy & Technology. Dec. 21, 2017. 32 p.**

<https://www.airportfacescans.com/>

“The report’s authors examined dozens of Department of Homeland Security documents and raised questions about the accuracy of facial recognition scans. They said the technology had high error rates and were subject to bias, because the scans often fail to properly identify women and African-Americans.... Customs officials say the biometric system has also produced some successes in the pilot testing and has helped catch people who have entered the United States illegally and are traveling on fake documents. They noted that facial scans and fingerprints — unlike travel documents — cannot be forged or altered and therefore give agents an additional tool to ensure border security. But Senators Edward J. Markey, Democrat of Massachusetts, and Mike Lee, Republican of Utah, expressed concerns about the report’s findings.” ([New York Times](#), Dec. 21, 2017).

RECOMMENDED READING

“First Person Political: Legislative Life and the Meaning of Public Service” by Grant Reeher. New York University Press, 2006, 204 pp.

Call Number: JK1764.R44 2006 (Regular Loan)

Location: Stanley Mosk State Library and Courts Building, 914 Capitol Mall, Room 301 (Information Services)

"In an era of unprecedented cynicism and disengagement from politics, Reeher provides a refreshing look at politicians as human beings. Drawing from extensive interviews with state legislators, he paints a portrait of the lawmaker as civil servant, deeply committed to the public good yet burdened by the harsh realities of politics." ([State Legislatures Magazine](#), Dec. 2016).

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