

'This is an original and thought-provoking book that casts a much-needed critical gaze over recent developments in criminal justice policy and the "victim agenda". Duggan and Heap astutely situate these shifts within a wider criminological framework, and demonstrate their convergence with neoliberal strategies of crime control. A timely study that should be read by all scholars and students of criminology, as well as practitioners, who are interested in how we treat the victims of crime.' - Professor Majid Yar, University of Hull, UK

*With a foreword by Pamela Davies, Northumbria University, UK.*

The study of victims and victimization has evolved to produce more information about the effects and impacts of crime, as well as victims' experiences of engagement with the criminal justice system. This book analyses the socio-political context in which particular groups of victims have been prioritized by UK policy makers in the past two decades as requiring enhanced or targeted services.

Focusing on anti-social behaviour and hate crime, Duggan and Heap explore how separating victims according to victimization type allows for a targeted approach which benefits some and disadvantages others. They assess the extent to which certain forms of victimization, or demarcated groups of victims, have been used by governments to further punitive political agendas under the guise of being 'victim-focused' or 'victim-led'. In so doing, this book explores the changing role and status of the victim in contemporary criminal justice discourses, as well as the increased managerialism evident in facilitating victims' engagement in the broader criminal justice system.

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