

# UNDERSTANDING VIOLENCE:

**POLICE, POLICE DOCTORS, & VIOLENT MURDER,  
1930S TO THE 1980S**

**JOANNA BOURKE**

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**HENDON SCHOOL FOR  
DETECTIVES  
(1934)**





**Sir Harold Scott**  
**Commissioner**  
**of Metropolitan**  
**Police**  
**(1945-53)**

# Scotland Yard

Sir Harold Scott

Commissioner of the Metropolitan  
Police 1945-53



London's war against  
crime - from the inside



***1945: 218 MURDERS***

***(A NUMBER NOT SURPASSED UNTIL THE 1970S)***





***IAN HACKING'S***  
***“DYNAMIC NOMINALISM”***



SIR HOWARD VINCENT'S  
POLICE CODE

1889

WITH  
AN ADDRESS TO CONSTABLES ON THEIR DUTIES BY  
THE HONOURABLE SIR HENRY HAWKINS  
*One of Her Majesty's Judges*

AND

A PREFACE BY  
JAMES MONRO  
*The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis*

NEIL R A BELL and ADAM WOOD

FOREWORD BY  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER NEIL BASU  
*Chairman of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphans Fund*

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK

FOR  
MAGISTRATES, POLICE OFFICERS, AND LAWYERS

Translated and adapted to Indian and Colonial conditions from the  
SYSTEM DER ERGÄNZUNGEN

BY  
DR. HANS GROSS,

Professor of Criminology in the University of Jena.

BY  
JOHN ADAM, B.A., BARRISTER AT LAW,

Queen and Public Prosecution, Dublin.

BY  
J. COLLYER ADAM, BARRISTER AT LAW,

Attorney, High Court, Dublin.

A. KANNIKARAYAN, FORMER, MADRAS

MUMBAI

1924/25  
3/9/23

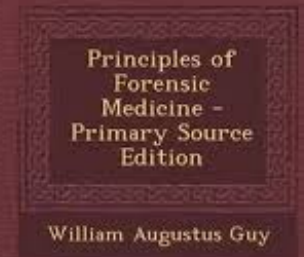




# WILLIAM GUY'S PRINCIPLES OF FORENSIC MEDICINE

“JUDGEMENT AND FORESIGHT”

RATHER THAN  
FOLLOWING RULES OR GUIDELINES



***4 TYPES OF VIOLENCE IN  
POLICE/CID REPRESENTATIONS  
OF THE FEMALE CORPSE:***

***1. REPRESENTATION***

***2. MATERIALISATION***

***3) SOMATISATION***

***4) DE-CORPORALISATION***



# ***1. REPRESENTATION***

***(POOR MARY OF HENDON'S SPLAYED CORPSE)***

# ***2. MATERIALISATION***

***(THE PRODUCTION AND SOCIAL LIFE OF THE  
MATERIAL FEMALE CORPSE)***

# ***3) SOMATISATION***

***(WOMAN'S BODY "GIVING UP" ITS SECRETS)***

# ***4) DE-CORPORALISATION***

***(ERASURE)***





**Representation**

***THE FEMALE CORPSE  
“STAND-INS” FOR THE  
UNIVERSAL***

***(“EVERYMAN”)***



***THE MEANING OF VIOLENCE  
WAS “READ” FROM THE  
GENDER OF THE  
VIOLATED PERSON***



***“CRIME SCENE”:***

***“A DISTINCT ANALYTIC SPACE,  
BOUNDED CONCEPTUALLY AND  
OPERATIONALLY BY EXPLICIT  
RULES OF PRACTICE”***

***(IAN BURNEY)***



# ***MATERIALIZATION***

***OR THE PRODUCTION OF THE SOCIAL LIFE OF  
THE MATERIAL CORPSE***





***THE “FEELING”  
POLICEMAN/DOCTOR***

***NEW EMOTIONAL REGIMES  
EMOTION-RICH PRACTICES OF VIEWING THE  
CORPSE***



***“INTUITIVE FAMILIARITY”***

**V**

***“SCIENTIFIC APPROACH”***



***“DOGGED, MUSCULAR” VARIETY***

**V**

***SCIENTIFIC AND OBJECTIVE ONE***



***THE CORPSE  
HAS A SOCIAL LIFE***



# ***SOMATISATION***



***TECHNOSCIENTIFIC WITNESSES  
TO VIOLENT DEATH***





**Sir Harold Scott**

**Commissioner of  
Metropolitan  
Police**

# ***DE-CORPORALISATION***





**THE POLICE REVIEW (1955):**

***“MURDER WITHOUT TEARS”***



***SADISTIC MURDER WAS A  
PERVERSION OF “EXCESS”  
& NOT A DEVIATION FROM  
GENDER NORMS***



**“UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS  
A MAN MEETS OBSTACLES WHICH IT IS HIS PART  
TO OVERCOME, AND FOR WHICH NATURE HAS  
GIVEN HIM AN AGGRESSIVE CHARACTER.  
THIS AGGRESSIVE CHARACTER, HOWEVER,  
UNDER PATHOLOGICAL CONDITIONS,  
MAY LIKEWISE BE EXCESSIVELY DEVELOPED,  
AND EXPRESS ITSELF IN AN IMPULSE TO  
SEDUCE ABSOLUTELY THE OBJECT OF DESIRE,  
EVEN TO DESTROY OR KILL IT.”**

**Richard von  
Krafft-Ebing,  
Psychopathia  
Sexualis**

***A SHIFT FROM HER BODY***

***TO***

***THE BODY, MIND, &  
PERSONALITY OF THE  
PERPETRATOR***



***DEGENERACY*** (LOMBROSO)  
**TO**  
***MORAL INSANITY*** (PRITCHARD)  
**TO**  
***PERVERSION*** (KRAFFT-EBING)  
**TO**  
***PERSONALITY*** (1970s)



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