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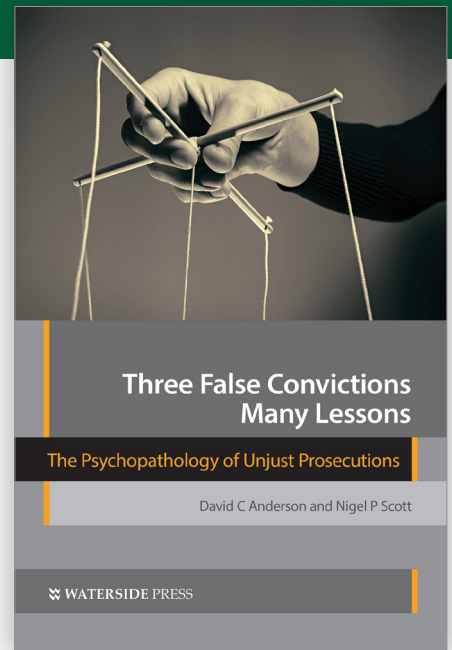
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Advance Information

Title **Three False Convictions, Many Lessons**
Subtitle The Psychopathology of Unjust Prosecutions
Authors David C Anderson and Nigel P Scott
Publisher Waterside Press
Format Paperback 234x156mm, 280 pages
ISBN 978-1-909976-35-1
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Publication 14 September 2016 **Edition** 1st
Category Crime and Punishment, Criminal Justice, Legal History, Social History, Media.
Subjects JMK=Criminal or forensic psychology; MMF=Pathology.
Who will buy it? Lawyers, legal practitioners, forensic practitioners, tutors, students, especially those interested in miscarriages of justice



What drives false but serious criminal charges and why do police and prosecutors often persist against those wrongly in the dock? As this book shows — by looking at three high profile cases, those of Amanda Knox and Raffaele Sollecito (Italy), Stefan Kiszko (UK) and Darlie Routier (USA) — motive forces are a mind-set in which psychopathy (what the authors charitably term ‘constitutional negative empathy’) may be present and in which confirmation bias (the need to reinforce a decision once made or lose face) plays a large part.

Darlie Routier is still on death row in Texas despite overwhelming evidence that her conviction for killing her own child is false, whilst Knox, Sollecito and Kiszko have been vindicated by the highest and best of authority and compelling evidence. The authors show how wholly unfounded rumours still persist in the Knox/Sollecito case due to hostile media and internet trolling. In the Routier case they advance a new theory that the killings (two in all) were in fact the work of a notorious serial killer.

‘In the light of all this, questionable trial procedures need to be overhauled, with much greater recognition of [their] imperfections and of the general imbalance in favour of the prosecution. Greater weight needs to be given . . . to *establishing real, rather than merely judicial, truth*’ — (Chapter 11).

Key Selling Points

- **A new perspective on why false charges occur, proceed and persist.**
- **Looks at the roles of psychopathology, confirmation bias, false confessions, the media and internet among other causes.**
- **Puts lack of empathy at the fore in terms of police, prosecutors and others.**
- **Considers a wide range of other psychopathological aspects of false convictions.**
- **Based on first-hand knowledge or involvement (David Anderson was Stefan Kiszko’s endocrinologist and attended both his and the Knox/Sollecito trial).**

Authors

David Anderson is a former Professor of Medicine in Manchester and Hong Kong. He first awoke to miscarriages of justice in connection with a former patient of his, Stefan Kiszko, who in 1976 was wrongly convicted of the murder of Lesley Molseed. **Nigel Scott** is a writer and researcher who has written extensively (with David Anderson) on the Knox/Sollecito case in particular.



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