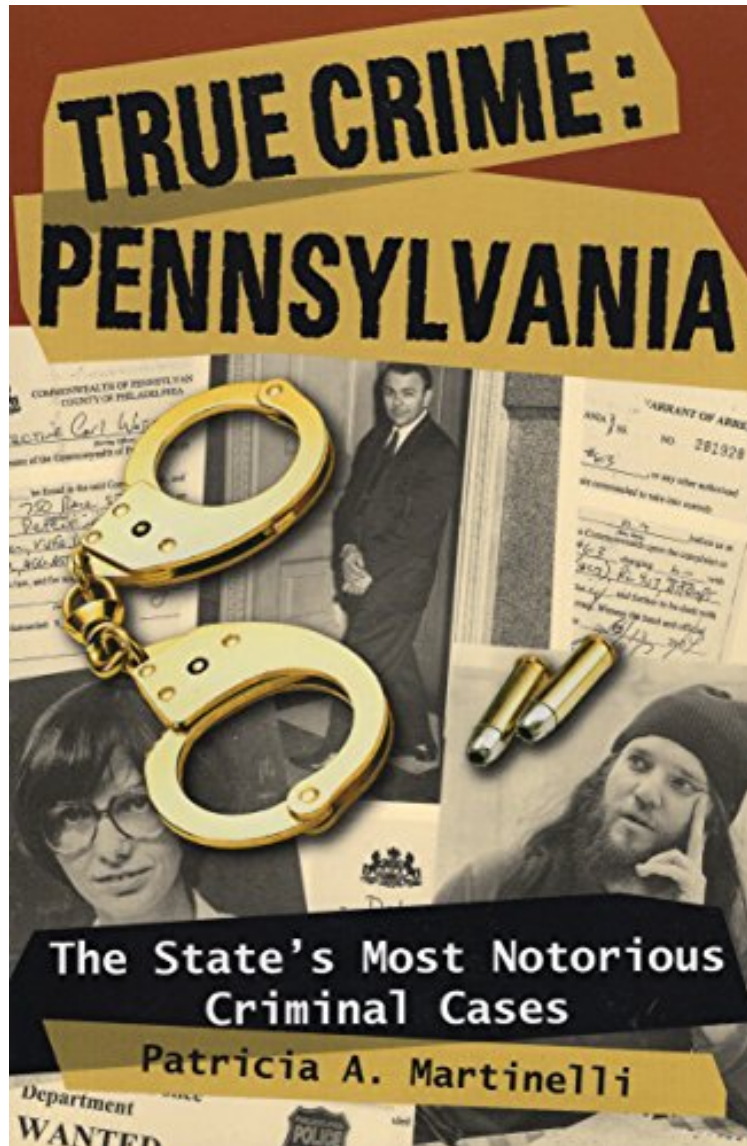


[Free] True Crime: Pennsylvania: The State's Most Notorious Criminal Cases

True Crime: Pennsylvania: The State's Most Notorious Criminal Cases

Patricia A. Martinelli

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Patricia A. Martinelli : **True Crime: Pennsylvania: The State's Most Notorious Criminal Cases** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised True Crime: Pennsylvania: The State's Most Notorious Criminal Cases:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. History informs us By Summer Foovay This is a very interesting

account of some of the most notorious cases connected with Pennsylvania. I found the older, historical cases very intriguing. It is interesting to note that there were gangs in Philadelphia back in the 1800s - and their behavior is little different than that of gangs today. Another "those who do not know history are doomed to repeat it" moment was had when the chapter about the Mob, Mafia, whatever you prefer to call them goes into their growth during Prohibition. In fact, change the names and circumstances a little and it could easily be about the current "War on Drugs" and drug lords. I'd like to point out that a considerable amount of associated criminal activity - such as drive by shootings (no, the Crips didn't invent them) - came to a halt when Prohibition was repealed. To me, this is the best argument for legalizing drugs and slapping a "luxury" tax on them, treating drug addiction as the mental/physical illness that it is and getting on with it. The prison system would damn near empty. Of course, there are big bucks in the "War on Drugs" and in the privately owned and operated prison system, so I doubt we will ever manage to get rid of them now. Another striking case is that of the mass murder at the Amish Nickel Mines School. Striking not because of the crime, but because of the outpouring of forgiveness from the Amish community. Rather than perpetually rubbing salt in the wound, as the media and mainstream communities have done over every other mass murder event, the Amish community grieved, forgave, and moved on. Perhaps the most amazing part of this is their reaching out to the family of the killer with sympathy, forgiveness, and even financial help. Something else we could all learn from. Perhaps the most interesting thing that comes from this little book is the information that crime really hasn't changed in the most basic sense. People kill for greed, passion, and jealousy - and that really hasn't changed at all. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Some Famous Cases in the Keystone State By Acute Observer True Crime: Pennsylvania, Patricia Martinelli This book has a selection of some of the major cases from the past century ('Introduction'). Crime has increased faster than the population (p.x). [This ignores other factors.] Chapter 1 provides a brief history. William Penn paid the Indians for their lands, the government gave rights to the Indians. Conflicts arose between the Indians and the new settlers. "As the population increased so did the crime rate." Page 4 tells about life in the 18th century. Crime continued during the War of 1812. Philadelphia had its gangs (p.10). These pages tell about cases famous beyond Philadelphia. In 1909 Billie Whitla was kidnapped, ransomed, and returned (Chapter 2). Prohibition meant smuggling alcohol and narcotics, and running gambling casinos. Chapter 3 discusses the Mafia in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Scranton. Did the Mafia profit from Atlantic City gambling (p.37)? These pages tell of the conflicts between various individuals. Chapter 4 tells about the murderous Joseph Kallinger who committed crimes in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey. Did the chemicals in his shoe repair shop affect him (p.48)? Robbery and murder left a clue to his identity (p.52). Toxic substances can cause schizophrenia and paranoia (p.53). Chapter 5 is about "The Unicorn Killer", a brilliant man who was seldom boring, a hippie (p.62). His girlfriend disappeared, her parents hired detectives to find her. Einhorn fled the country with his new girlfriend. After extradition, he was convicted. [Are there other leaders who have hidden scandals?] Chapter 6 tells about William Bradfield, an English teacher at a High School, who had too many girlfriends. Bradfield also manipulated other people as well (p.76). Susan Reinert was murdered, her life insurance benefitted Bradfield. He was convicted of murder, the bodies of Reinert's children were never found (p.82). Chemicals in a poorly-ventilated workplace cause health problems (p.84). Edward Gingerich killed his wife, and was found guilty of manslaughter due to mental illness. Chapter 7 is the story of two teenagers who killed their parents and younger brother after getting involved in a neo-Nazi movement. Their cousin was also involved. All were given life sentences. In another case a man killed his wife for insurance money, needed for his failing business (p.99). The murder of children in an Amish school by a milk truck driver was national news in October 2006 (Chapter 8). Charles Roberts was married with children, his suicide left no explanations. "The behavior of mass murderers is rarely predictable", but they dwell on their disappointments in life (p.104). Five of the ten girls survived their wounds. The grief-stricken Amish expressed no hatred towards the killer. Avoiding anger is the quickest route to healing. The schoolhouse was demolished (p.108). People donated money to care for the victims (p.110). Chapter 9 discusses the police officers of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia is the largest city, more than 1.4 million people. It averages one murder a day (p.114). The most skilled detectives are assigned to homicide (p.116). Anyone interested in a career in law-enforcement should live a clean life (p.121). The author claims no one will ever know what causes crime (p.124). Not so, generally it is poverty that causes crime, or mental illness (but that is often due to poverty). Somebody wants something bad enough so they do what they shouldn't. Robbery and murder are more common in poor neighborhoods. Therefore you should see an increase in crime and mental illness during this current "Great Recession". The 'Bibliography' lists twenty-four books and a 'Mobil Travel Guide'. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Lacking By Susan Oliver This was a nice book and went through some crimes but there are more interesting and well known crimes, some unsolved that are more interesting. It had less than what I expected.

The history of criminal offense in Pennsylvania is documented in this book, beginning with a general survey of crime in the state and then focusing on its headline cases. Included are Philadelphia and Pittsburgh mob activities, the 20-year hunt for killer Ira Einhorn, the murder of Philadelphia-area schoolteacher Susan Reinert, the Freeman teenagers in Allentown who stabbed their parents to death, and the tragic shootings at the Nickel Mines Amish school.

About the Author Patricia A. Martinelli lives in southern New Jersey and is the administrator of the Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society.