

## FOREWARD

I am delighted to commend this book to you, the reader.

When my association with Pacific jurisdictions first began in 1988, practitioners had difficulty ascertaining legislative provisions, let alone judicial precedents. An amendment to one particular Penal Code had gone through Parliament but with some changes to its original text. This had somehow gone unnoticed amongst the record keepers and only survived in final parliamentary form in the bound and sealed original copies held by the three great offices of state, the Head of State, the Speaker and the Chief Justice. All the other copies distributed showed the unamended text as if it had been passed in parliament without change.

Fortunately, scrambling through well thumbed and used scraps of paper to read the amended version of legislation has long gone, replaced with AustLII and PacLII when the internet is working and, in many cases now, an efficient and up to date Attorney General's Chambers library.

To add to that already high standard of material availability comes this book, bringing together the legislative provisions and those judicial pronouncements on it from the Pacific jurisdictions relating to the Criminal Law. The use of Australian, in particular Queensland, authorities is hardly surprising given the history of the legislation in place in the three countries covered by this book. Indeed, it could not be more appropriate given how some of the Appellate courts in their infancy were supported tirelessly and enthusiastically by serving Queensland judges.

Finding in one place such a wealth of material relevant to your own jurisdiction is more than a joy. For students and practitioners alike, it will remain for a long time a most useful tool both to refresh and remind of legislative provisions and working practices. It explains not only how but often why we find provisions in each of our jurisdictions helping to reinforce those same provisions in either eager, young and still forming brains or those brains beginning to lose the flexibility of youth they once had.

Whatever your place on that spectrum, there will be a place for you within this book and for that reason I end as I began and commend this book to you for its content, style and overall readability. We are all much better off for its very existence.

Justice E P Goldsbrough CMG, CSI  
President  
Court of Appeal  
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