



Legitimacy, Dangerousness and Prison Law

Joe Stone QC and Lorna Elliot

Doughty Street Chambers

Institute of Criminology Public Seminar Series

Thursday 26th February 2015, 5.30pm

Seminar Room B3, Institute of Criminology,
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA

A drinks reception in the basement foyer will follow this seminar for attendees

Joe Stone QC and Lorna Elliott will each discuss specific aspects of their legal work with us and relate this to current penal practices in contemporary imprisonment. Joe will outline the practical problems and issues that arise from a trial perspective when representing the people who are categorised as the most dangerous prisoners in the prison estate. Lorna will draw on her extensive experience of representing prisoners in judicial reviews of administrative proceedings within prison, in parole reviews and in re-categorisation proceedings. From this perspective she will discuss contemporary practices in the construction of dangerousness and what counts as risk reduction. She will problematize the process of downgrading and routes out of the high security estate. Within this she will reflect on the impacts of the limits to legal aid and the proposed changes currently being debated to Judicial Review. She will consider how prison lawyers and prison administrators might work together to make our prisons operate in ways that are more just and more legitimate.

This seminar is free, and is open to all interested in attending, with no ticket required. If you wish to be added to the seminar mailing list, please contact: Joanne Garner, on: jf225@cam.ac.uk
For full listing of IoC Seminars: <http://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/> For directions: <http://map.cam.ac.uk/>



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Joe Stone QC has specialised in criminal defence for 25 years. He was called to the Bar in 1989 and appointed Queens Counsel in 2013. His primary focus is trial work. He has specialised in homicide cases, large scale international drug conspiracies and organised crime. He has successfully represented many indicted with murder under the joint enterprise rules in major city gang related homicides. He has extensive understanding of the operations of Category A dispersal prisons, close supervision centres (CSC's) and the Special Intervention Unit (SIU) at HMP Manchester. Joe has specialist expertise in defending individuals suffering from extreme personality disorders and other matters of forensic psychiatry, forensic pathology and forensic medicine. He has also appeared in leading cases requiring detailed knowledge of forensic criminal investigations such as facemapping, fingerprinting and DNA evidence. He has successfully defended some very high profile cases where prisoners have been prosecuted for violent acts while imprisoned.

Lorna Elliott is a barrister specialising in prisoners' rights and public law who has represented countless offenders, including many high profile prisoners and those held in the high security estate. She has considerable experience of advising on risk and dangerousness, representing prisoners at parole hearings and advising on all other aspects of prison law including escape risk, categorisation, recall and licence issues. She has taken prisoner cases to the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights and has also pursued civil claims on behalf of prisoners, as well as appeals against conviction and sentence. She is passionate about fairness in the criminal justice system and spearheaded a campaign to abolish the now-repealed sentence of Imprisonment for Public Protection, which won a Law Society Excellence Award in 2011.