



# Civil Penalties, Social Consequences

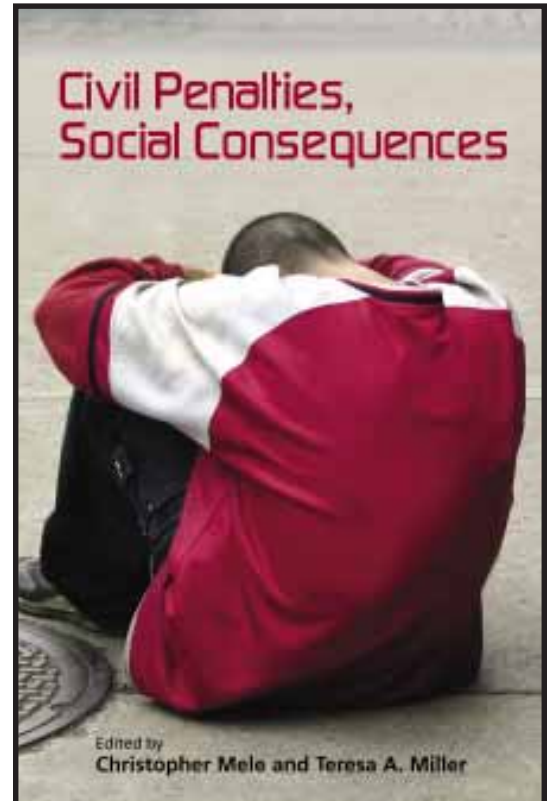
Edited by Christopher Mele and Teresa A. Miller

*"The contributors to this volume document a vast structure of civil disabilities that lies beyond the gates of America's alarmingly distended prison system. This mostly invisible system operates to govern large segments of the American population, especially the poor, minorities, and non-citizens, in a form more similar to totalitarian dictatorship than to anything resembling a republican constitution. With the war on terror likely to imbed this system of absolutist rule more deeply into our political and legal institutions, the time for the widest possible discussion and debate on these issues is now."*

—Jonathan Simon, Associate Dean,  
Jurisprudence and Social Policy Program, and  
Professor of Law, School of Law,  
University of California at Berkeley

*"This is a book which challenges and disturbs. It demands to be read by those who place faith in increasingly punitive strategies, and those who seek to resist them."*

—Dave Cowan, Professor of Law and Policy,  
University of Bristol



Since the advent of the Wars on Drugs and Terror, the volume of criminal convictions, incarceration rates, and deportations has increased dramatically, and the legislation imposing new collateral civil penalties—legal restrictions stemming from certain felony convictions—or strengthening older ones has proliferated. As a result, collateral penalties have become not only more severe but also “unhinged” from the traditional justifications for their imposition. As the distinguished contributors to *Civil Penalties, Social Consequences* demonstrate, these penalties—including sanctions on certain types of employment, housing, education, welfare eligibility, parental rights, and protections from deportation—have come to hinder, in very real ways, the life chances for a large number of disadvantaged individuals, their families and communities in the poorest sections of U.S. cities.

Contributors include: Patricia Allard, Santiago Aroca, Gabriel J. Chin, Elizabeth Curtin, Nora V. Demleitner, Lucian E. Ferster, Stephanie Mecca Franklin, Amy Hirsch, Daniel Kanstroom, Jeff Manza, Debra Parkes, William G. Staples, Christopher Uggen, and Dirk van Zyl Smit

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