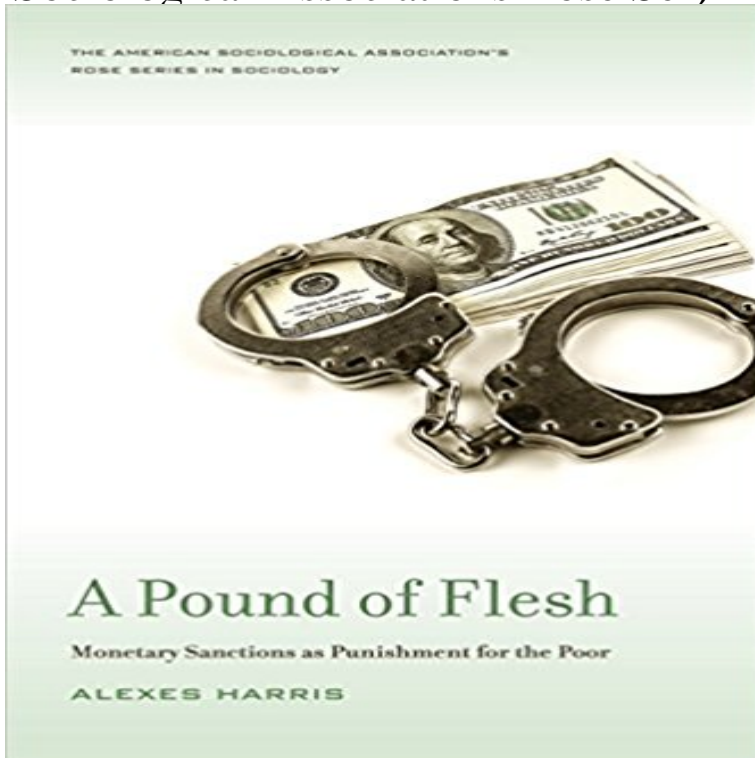


# A Pound of Flesh: Monetary Sanctions as Punishment for the Poor (Amer Sociological Associations Rose Ser)



either incarcerated, on probation, or on parole, with their criminal records often following them for life and affecting access to higher education, jobs, and housing. Court-ordered monetary sanctions that compel criminal defendants to pay fines, fees, surcharges, and restitution further inhibit their ability to reenter society. In *A Pound of Flesh*, sociologist Alexis Harris analyzes the rise of monetary sanctions in the criminal justice system and shows how they permanently penalize and marginalize the poor. She exposes the damaging effects of a little-understood component of criminal sentencing and shows how it further perpetuates racial and economic inequality. Harris draws from extensive sentencing data, legal documents, observations of court hearings, and interviews with defendants, judges, prosecutors, and other court officials. She documents how low-income defendants are affected by monetary sanctions, which include fees for public defenders and a variety of processing charges. Until these debts are paid in full, individuals remain under judicial supervision, subject to court summons, warrants, and jail stays. As a result of interest and surcharges that accumulate on unpaid financial penalties, these monetary sanctions often become insurmountable legal debts which many offenders carry for the remainder of their lives. Harris finds that such fiscal sentences, which are imposed disproportionately on low-income minorities, help create a permanent economic underclass and deepen social stratification. *A Pound of Flesh* delves into the court practices of five counties in

Washington State to illustrate the ways in which subjective sentencing shapes the practice of monetary sanctions. Judges and court clerks hold a considerable degree of discretion in the sentencing and monitoring of monetary sanctions and rely on individual values—such as personal responsibility, meritocracy, and paternalism—to determine how much and when offenders should pay. Harris shows that monetary sanctions are imposed at different rates across jurisdictions, with little or no state government oversight. Local officials’ reliance on their own values and beliefs can also push offenders further into debt—for example, when judges charge defendants who lack the means to pay their fines with contempt of court and penalize them with additional fines or jail time. *A Pound of Flesh* provides a timely examination of how monetary sanctions permanently bind poor offenders to the judicial system. Harris concludes that in letting monetary sanctions go unchecked, we have created a two-tiered legal system that imposes additional burdens on already-marginalized groups.

Dead on Revival Main menu Skip to content Home About the Blog About the Blogger The Alphabet The List Sleep now; fear human nature tomorrow POSTED ON FEBRUARY 16, 2016 Ive had this blog for nearly a decade. Fuck. POSTED IN LIFE A Prayer POSTED ON NOVEMBER 27, 2015 You are, of course, too much I am easily tired and slow Where you run on for days without rest: The God of ultra-marathons and Bolt Who still jogs beside me on my 12-minute mile Where you work without end: The Messenger for Gods without rest or relent Who pulls me to my feet on 14 hour shifts Where you laugh without reserve: The Prankster who steals their best friends cows Who reminds me that may it harm none we all need to have fun Where you lead: The Guide today until death Who rides beside me on long sleepy nights Enagonius, Poneomenos, Mechaniotes, Diaktoros Transcendent and eternal You called to me and I fall at your feet I thank you, Lord Hermes, for your blessings and your indulgence as I find my way on your path POSTED IN LIFE TAGGED DRU TALKS GODS, HELLENIC POLYTHEIST, HERMES, POLYTHEISM, PRAYER Drunk Advice From A God POSTED ON NOVEMBER 3, 2015 2 the days are pouring nectar down my throat so thick and sweet that it makes my teeth brittle in exhalation to life and he tastes like spiced

wine, in-toxicating and scalding as he elevates me the way a lift carries you as high as you ask it as high as its able He laughs: Burn Your Feet flying through inexorable hours you once spent languishing in despondence Reach out with both your hands for Death and screech your joy when She recoils, smiling POSTED IN LIFE TAGGED DEVOTIONAL STUFF, DRU BLOGS, HERMES, MY STUFF, PERSONAL, POETRY, WRITING Eirwyn p1 POSTED ON JULY 8, 2015 Once upon a time, in a land bordered by a lush, dark wood, there ruled the kind but simple king, Gwirion. Fortunately for his kingdom his young queen, Bywyd was as sharp as he was dull. She advised him in all matters of state, and benevolently attended concerned citizens and visiting dignitaries alike, always with a graceful nod to her husband and a quiet "May it please your Majesty." So it was that they ruled in peace for many years troubled only by the lack of Ysbryd-ane an heir to carry on the divine dragon blood of Gwirions ancestors. When Bywyd found herself full with child at last she rejoiced that their kingdom would be secured, their rule assuredly peaceful for the rest of their lives. And when the child was born, with raven black hair so dark against eyes as blue as lightning and skin as pale as snow, they called her Eirwyn and raised her to understand the five aspects of the dragon that she must ever personify to rule her people. Before her sixth birthday, Eirwyn was already tired of the dusty words she had learned by rote. POSTED IN WRITING TAGGED BLOG, CAMP NANOWRIMO, FAIRY TALE, FEEDBACK PLZ?, WRITING vibrato POSTED ON JULY 8, 2015 OK. Im shaking apart inside Tremors that are too fine to be seen or felt Maybe i can hear them though? If I listen v carefully Cool. Im not really sure why. Maybe minds are meant to fall apart when theyre as delicately stitched together as mine? Ooh or Im picking at the metaphorical seams because Im just so godsdamned bored! Yas. Lets make this an intentional thing Consequences of choices are always easier to stomach Even if theyre shitty Mm. Learn to trust your audience, right? Youre all such bright young things. Your capable and endlessly receptive. Just Like me. POSTED IN WRITING TAGGED IT JUST SEEMS ARROGANT TO CAPITALISE YOUR OWN ME, NOT SORRY, POETRY, SORRY Post navigation Older posts Subscribe Enter your email address to subscribe to this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email. Join 791 other followers Enter your email address click here to subscribe There was an error retrieving images from Instagram. An attempt will be remade in a few minutes. Twitter Error: Twitter did not respond. Please wait a few minutes and refresh this page. Information This blog was founded by Dru Saxton and Lu Thatcher in February of 2007. Please click About the Blog for more information. 1, 443 posts have been published on this blog since its inception. Blog posts are regularly archived and removed. These archives are available for purchase. Please contact Dru for more information. Updated: May 4, 2012 - 22:35 CDT Tumblr Blogroll Blonde in Asia Book-Addicts Completing the List Creative Copy Challenge Dave Cafe Five Reflections Haiku and Stuff Insight To An Individual Living With Baddies Smashed Collar Bone The Bucket List The Ms Education of Shelby Knox Create a free website or blog at WordPress.com. The Forever Theme. Follow Follow "Dead on Revival" Get every new post delivered to your Inbox. Join 791 other followers Enter your email address Sign me up Build a website with WordPress.com

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