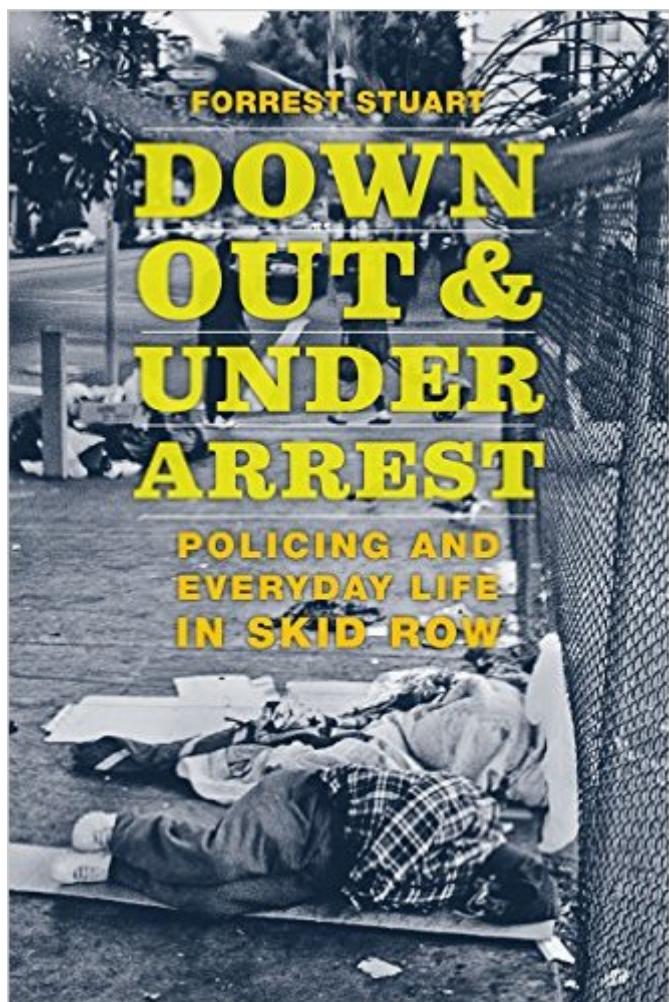


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Down, Out, And Under Arrest: Policing And Everyday Life In Skid Row



Synopsis

In his first year working in Los Angelesâ™s Skid Row, Forrest Stuart was stopped on the street by police fourteen times. Usually for doing little more than standing there. Juliette, a woman he met during that time, has been stopped by police well over one hundred times, arrested upward of sixty times, and has given up more than a year of her life serving week-long jail sentences. Her most common crime? Simply sitting on the sidewalkâ™an arrestable offense in LA. Why? What purpose did those arrests serve, for society or for Juliette? How did we reach a point where weâ™ve cut support for our poorest citizens, yet are spending ever more on policing and prisons? Thatâ™s the complicated, maddening story that Stuart tells in *Down, Out and Under Arrest*, a close-up look at the hows and whys of policing poverty in the contemporary United States. What emerges from Stuartâ™s years of fieldworkâ™not only with Skid Row residents, but with the police charged with managing themâ™is a tragedy built on mistakes and misplaced priorities more than on heroes and villains. He reveals a situation where a lot of people on both sides of this issue are genuinely trying to do the right thing, yet often come up short. Sometimes, in ways that do serious harm. At a time when distrust between police and the residents of disadvantaged neighborhoods has never been higher, Stuartâ™s book helps us see where weâ™ve gone wrong, and what steps we could take to begin to change the lives of our poorest citizensâ™and ultimately our society itselfâ™for the better.

Book Information

Hardcover: 352 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press (August 2, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 022637081X

ISBN-13: 978-0226370811

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ™ See all reviewsÂ™ (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #46,026 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Public Affairs & Policy > Social Policy #52 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Poverty #56 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Law Enforcement

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