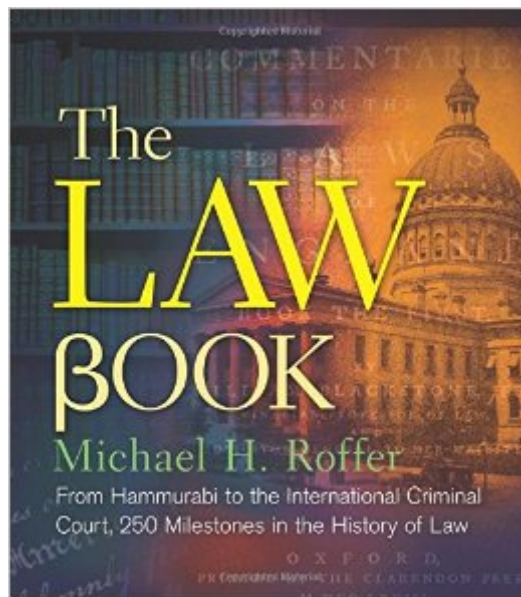


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# The Law Book: From Hammurabi To The International Criminal Court, 250 Milestones In The History Of Law (Sterling Milestones)



## Synopsis

Which was the last country to abolish slavery? Which is the only amendment to the U.S. Constitution ever to be repealed? How did King Henry II of England provide a procedural blueprint for criminal law? These are just a few of the thought-provoking questions addressed in this beautifully illustrated book. Join author Michael H. Roffer as he explores 250 of the most fundamental, far-reaching, and often-controversial cases, laws, and trials that have profoundly changed our world—for good or bad. Offering authoritative context to ancient documents as well as today's hot-button issues, *The Law Book* presents a comprehensive look at the rules by which we live our lives. It covers such diverse topics as the Code of Hammurabi, the Ten Commandments, the Trial of Socrates, the Bill of Rights, women's suffrage, the insanity defense, and more. Roffer takes us around the globe to ancient Rome and medieval England before transporting us forward to contemporary accounts that tackle everything from civil rights, surrogacy, and assisted suicide to the 2000 U.S. presidential election, Google Books, and the fight for marriage equality. Organized chronologically, the entries each consist of a short essay and a stunning full-color image, while the "Notes and Further Reading" section provides resources for more in-depth study. Justice may be blind, but this collection brings the rich history of the law to light.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Perhaps the more history- and visually-oriented law student would like this. It covers lots of territory in short articles that are very informative. It has lots of graphics that don't add much to the written

content, except a respite from the dryness it would have as mere text.

If you have even the slightest interest in, or fascination with, legal history, then *The Law Book* is for you. The book highlights and describes some of the most significant legal cases, trials, and decisions, many of which have had long-lasting impact. In the book, you can learn more about, for example, women's right to vote (timely, with a movie being released on the subject at the time of this review), or the journey of African slaves on the *Amistad*, the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (which led to the FDA), or the New Obscenity Standard (where a Supreme Court Justice said that "I don't know it [obscenity] when I see it"). This book won't make you a lawyer, and that is not its intent, but after you read it, you will have knowledge of fun and interesting facts that - well - can be great conversation starters, or will help you with those trivia night competitions. I certainly recommend getting a copy!

What a gorgeous book! I can't believe the price. I got one for myself and just bought two more as gifts for my mother and 18 y.o. niece. Even my kids (10 and 12) were drawn in by the art and photos. The format is really inviting, both for browsing and reading more seriously, with one milestone per page and art facing. The art alone is worth the price of admission - photos and paintings reproduced in full color - and the content is broadly appealing and accessible, covering topics ranging from The First Law School (c. 250) to The Gin Act (1751) to Golf Carts on the PGA Tour (2001). Would make a great family reference book, or gift for any student of politics, history, trivia, or law.

Truly amazing! In so many respects. Here's why (in no particular order):  
• Totally one-of-a-kind  
• The content is very well written --- concise, clear, and in language \*anyone\* can understand.  
• Which is why it makes a perfect gift for any one at any age. (So far I've given around 10 books out as gifts). Also a great book for reference, or home/office coffee table. Great talking piece.  
• Each milestone truly makes an impression on you, as it's put in a \*much\* broader context. You begin to realize how each milestone fits within our society and our entire civilization. There's so many things in life we either take for granted or don't know how/where/why it came from and this book helps put so much of our lives in perspective. I think this is my favorite aspect, and it's why I find it to be awe-inspiring and pretty mind-blowing.  
• There's a wealth of knowledge to be gained just by flipping to any page in this book or, if you're dedicated, by reading through the entire thing. (Something which I have yet to do. But that's what I love about it! I can pick it up whenever)  
• It's

like 250 snapshots of history, with pictures!â€¢The price! Could you even get a better value for everything in here? Doubt it.

This is a phenomenal and eminently readable book tracing 250 legal milestones from the Code of Hammurabi to the modern U.S. Supreme Court. I found it delightful, informative and, believe it or not, entertaining. It is a wonderful reference, but also a lot of fun to read. Roffer very skillfully presents a bird's eye view of legal history, which of course is also human history, in bite-sized chunks, making it easy to see how all the pieces fit together, starting with the Code of Hammurabi. Along the way, we explore everything from civil rights to the trial of Charles Manson to golf carts on the PGA tour. When I picked it up, I thought it'd be a nice reference to keep on a nearby shelf, and found myself reading it cover-to-cover. Since the essays are all brief (one page), you can easily pick it up and spend a few moments with Roffer without having to make any time commitment.

I love this book. It has short but thorough summaries of cases, litigation, statutes and events, accompanied by gorgeous photographs. I am a law professor and would give this book to anyone interested in an overview of the law or to someone thinking about becoming a lawyer or even just interested in legal history. The book is comprehensive. As we ponder the pressing issues ahead of us in this election season, from gun control and the Second Amendment to abortion, the death penalty, Citizens United and issues we ponder every day, it is well worth reviewing the ever changing (and not stagnant) nature of law. This is a welcome addition to the literature of the law - lively, artistic and fun to read.

The whole Sterling Milestones series is terrific. Every library and school should have them. And every person interested in law should own this book, endlessly worth reading and searching for things in it. The author's choices, 250 milestones, make sense and even with only brief expositions, the reader gets a good idea of what was involved. These are excellent lessons and a quick way to learn about legal history. I create and maintain educational websites, Midwest Independent Research. I have one on law, [mwir-law.blogspot.com](http://mwir-law.blogspot.com).

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