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# What Is The Weirdest Law In California

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## XIMENA SARA

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*Usual Cruelty* Cider Mill Press

The law is an ass, said Dickens. If he had seen some of what we have collected here he would be more convinced than ever that his assertion was true. From the sheer comedy of parking elephants, not shooting buffalo and definitely not having sex with porcupines to the more worrying legislation against women, homosexuals and people from minority groups, this is a compilation from around the world of the more bizarre and disturbing actions of law-making bodies. A lot of this crazy law seems to come from US states –not a slur, just a fact. America is so multi-ethnic, cultural and religious that strange fusions were bound to emerge in some states. Strangely it seems that most have succumbed to this unfortunate disease at one time or other. See what weird laws apply where you are today!!

**Weird Canadian Laws** Penguin

Strange, outdated laws from each of the 50 U.S. states—some overturned, some still on the books, and some merely the stuff of legends—are depicted with sly wit by Olivia Locher. Incisive,

ironic, and gorgeous, these images will appeal to art buffs and trivia fans alike. A foreword from American poet Kenneth Goldsmith and an interview with the artist by Eric Shiner, former director of the Andy Warhol Museum, contextualize rising-star Locher's photography. From serving wine in teacups in Kansas to licking a toad in Kentucky or perming a child's hair in Nebraska, breaking the law has never looked so good.

**Weird U. S. Laws** Farrar, Straus and Giroux

"People out of Place reshapes our understanding of the 1960s by telling a previously unknown story about often overlooked criminal laws prohibiting vagrancy. As Beats, hippies, war protesters, Communists, racial minorities, civil rights activists, prostitutes, single women, poor people, and sexual minorities challenged vagrancy laws, the laws became a shared constitutional target for clashes over radically different visions of the nation's future"--

**Weird But True!** John Wiley & Sons

A New York Times Notable Book of 2020 A Bloomberg Best Non-Fiction Book of 2020 A Behavioral Scientist Notable Book of 2020 A Human Behavior & Evolution Society Must-Read Popular Evolution Book of 2020 A bold, epic account of how the co-evolution of psychology and culture created the peculiar Western

mind that has profoundly shaped the modern world. Perhaps you are WEIRD: raised in a society that is Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Democratic. If so, you're rather psychologically peculiar. Unlike much of the world today, and most people who have ever lived, WEIRD people are highly individualistic, self-obsessed, control-oriented, nonconformist, and analytical. They focus on themselves—their attributes, accomplishments, and aspirations—over their relationships and social roles. How did WEIRD populations become so psychologically distinct? What role did these psychological differences play in the industrial revolution and the global expansion of Europe during the last few centuries? In *The WEIRDest People in the World*, Joseph Henrich draws on cutting-edge research in anthropology, psychology, economics, and evolutionary biology to explore these questions and more. He illuminates the origins and evolution of family structures, marriage, and religion, and the profound impact these cultural transformations had on human psychology. Mapping these shifts through ancient history and late antiquity, Henrich reveals that the most fundamental institutions of kinship and marriage changed dramatically under pressure from the Roman Catholic Church. It was these changes that gave rise to the WEIRD psychology that would coevolve with impersonal markets, occupational specialization, and free competition—laying the foundation for the modern world. Provocative and engaging in both its broad scope and its surprising details, *The WEIRDest People in the World* explores how culture, institutions, and psychology shape one another, and explains what this means for both our most personal sense of who we are as individuals and also the large-scale social, political, and economic forces that drive human history. Includes black-and-white illustrations.

#### **Weird British Columbia Laws** Simon and Schuster

The complete, uncut version of Robert A. Heinlein's all-time masterpiece, the brilliant novel that grew from a cult favorite to a bestseller to a science fiction classic. Raised by Martians on Mars, Valentine Michael Smith is a human who has never seen another member of his species. Sent to Earth, he is a stranger who must learn what it is to be a man. But his own beliefs and his powers far exceed the limits of humankind, and as he teaches them about grokking and water-sharing, he also inspires a transformation that will alter Earth's inhabitants forever...

#### 100 Crazy Laws Simon and Schuster

Weird laws, Dumb Laws, Funny Laws, Crazy Laws from around the world. Weird laws from Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Russia, Scotland, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, USA (State-wise list) and many other countries. Sample This: 01. Weird Laws -- Australia 01. Weird Laws -- Australia 01. It is against the law for children to purchase alcohol, cigarettes, but they are not prohibited from using them. 02. It is against the law to be drunk in a pub. 03. It is against the law to be near or inside a house that is used by thieves regularly. [Vagrancy Act of 1966] 04. It is against the law to come closer than one hundred meters from where a carcass of a dead whale is. 05. It is against the law to crush a can of beer between your breasts. 06. It is against the law to dress up as Batman or Robin. 07. It is against the law to drive a cat or dog attached to a vehicle in public place. 08. It is against the law to have an article of disguise without a lawful excuse. 09. It is against the law to leave the keys in the ignition or inside a vehicle of an unattended vehicle. 10. It is against the law to roam the streets wearing black clothes, felt shoes, and black shoe polish on your face. 11. It is against the law to swim unless you are wearing a neck to knee

swimsuit in Brighton Beach. 12. It is against the law to touch in electric wires that cause death instantly. 13. It is against the law to walk on the right hand side of a footpath. 14. Bars are required to stable, water and feed the horses that come with patrons. 15. If you advertise a reward for finding lost or stolen objects, the advertisement must have a statement that no questions will be asked. 16. Men are allowed to cross-dress, just as long as their dresses are not strapless. 17. No man under 4ft 8 inch is allowed to surf on Klondike Beach (due to the size of the waves.) 18. Taxicabs are required to carry a bale of hay in their trunks. 19. The legal age for straight sex is 16, unless the person is in the care/custody of the older person, in which case it is 18.

#### *The Book of Unusual Knowledge* Lulu.com

Think Canadians are the logical, rational bunch? The kind who don't overreact? Well, open this book and find out just how weird and wacky some of our laws have been -- and remember, it's kooky enough that the laws were created, but stranger still to think that certain behaviour actually led to their creation! Here are just a few: An old BC law supposedly made it illegal to kill a sasquatch. You can be imprisoned for challenging someone to a duel, or even accepting the challenge. You can get two years in prison for pretending to practise witchcraft (there was a case as recently as 1984!). There is a two-year penalty for offending a public place with a bad smell. In Fredericton, NB, it is against the law to wear a snake. Canada has its share of "Rip Van Winkle" statutes that are still on the books. You Can't Do That in Canada! highlights the wackiest, with thirty-five accompanying cartoons. A section at the end includes a quiz about really strange laws, and kids guess which three are the fakes. The rest, bizarre as they seem, are -- or were -- really on the books.

#### WTF?! BoD - Books on Demand

Amoral, cunning, ruthless, and instructive, this multi-million-copy New York Times bestseller is the definitive manual for anyone interested in gaining, observing, or defending against ultimate control -- from the author of *The Laws of Human Nature*. In the book that *People* magazine proclaimed "beguiling" and "fascinating," Robert Greene and Joost Elffers have distilled three thousand years of the history of power into 48 essential laws by drawing from the philosophies of Machiavelli, Sun Tzu, and Carl Von Clausewitz and also from the lives of figures ranging from Henry Kissinger to P.T. Barnum. Some laws teach the need for prudence ("Law 1: Never Outshine the Master"), others teach the value of confidence ("Law 28: Enter Action with Boldness"), and many recommend absolute self-preservation ("Law 15: Crush Your Enemy Totally"). Every law, though, has one thing in common: an interest in total domination. In a bold and arresting two-color package, *The 48 Laws of Power* is ideal whether your aim is conquest, self-defense, or simply to understand the rules of the game.

Weird Laws from Around the World National Geographic Books You may think you know the South for its food, its people, its past, and its stories, but if there's one thing that's certain, it's that the region tells far more than one tale. It is ever-evolving, open to interpretation, steeped in history and tradition, yet defined differently based on who you ask. This *Is My South* inspires the reader to explore the Southern States--Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia--like never before. No other guide pulls together these states into one book in quite this way with a fresh perspective on can't-miss landmarks, off the beaten path gems, tours for every interest, unique places to sleep, and classic restaurants. So come see for yourself and create your own experiences along the way!

#### True Facts That Sound Like Bull\$#\*† The New Press

As the major driver of U.S. demographic change, Latinos are

reshaping key aspects of the social, economic, political, and cultural landscape of the country. In the process, Latinos are challenging the longstanding black/white paradigm that has been used as a lens to understand racial and ethnic matters in the United States. In this book, Sáenz and Morales provide one of the broadest sociological examinations of Latinos in the United States. The book focuses on the numerous diverse groups that constitute the Latino population and the role that the U.S. government has played in establishing immigration from Latin America to the United States. The book highlights the experiences of Latinos in a variety of domains including education, political engagement, work and economic life, family, religion, health and health care, crime and victimization, and mass media. To address these issues in each chapter the authors engage sociological perspectives, present data examining major trends for both native-born and immigrant populations, and engage readers in thinking about the major issues that Latinos are facing in each of these dimensions. The book clearly illustrates the diverse experiences of the array of Latino groups in the United States, with some of these groups succeeding socially and economically, while other groups continue to experience major social and economic challenges. The book concludes with a discussion of what the future holds for Latinos. This book is essential reading for undergraduate and graduate students, social scientists, and policymakers interested in Latinos and their place in contemporary society.

**Strange Justice** Pantheon

Presents a collection of silly laws, ridiculous court decisions, and strange government statutes that in many cases are still on the books.

**How to Become a Federal Criminal** Macmillan

The Book of Unusual Knowledge is a mammoth 704-page hardcover book crammed with a cornucopia of information--some useful, others not so much--but all of it completely captivating. It's perfect for anyone with a curious mind and a passion for learning. With quirky illustrations and a vast array of articles, anecdotes, lists, and games, this book will provide hours of fascinating reading. It will also expand your knowledge on a range of topics, including the animal kingdom, art, sports, technology, history, politics, the universe, and much, much more. Sample topics include: \* Are plastic bags killing sacred cows in India? \* Does NASCAR have roots in bootlegging moonshine? \* Did Ronald Reagan see not one--but two--UFOs during his lifetime? Gorgeous leatherette binding with gilded accents makes The Book of Unusual Knowledge a handsome addition to your library.

**You Can't Do That in Canada** Penguin

From an award-winning civil rights lawyer, a profound challenge to our society's normalization of the caging of human beings, and the role of the legal profession in perpetuating it Alec Karakatsanis is interested in what we choose to punish. For example, it is a crime in most of America for poor people to wager in the streets over dice; dice-wagerers can be seized, searched, have their assets forfeited, and be locked in cages. It's perfectly fine, by contrast, for people to wager over international currencies, mortgages, or the global supply of wheat; wheat-wagerers become names on the wings of hospitals and museums. He is also troubled by how the legal system works when it is trying to punish people. The bail system, for example, is meant to ensure that people return for court dates. But it has morphed into a way to lock up poor people who have not been convicted of anything. He's so concerned about this that he has personally sued court systems across the country, resulting in literally tens of thousands of people being released from jail when their money bail was found to be unconstitutional. Karakatsanis doesn't think

people who have gone to law school, passed the bar, and sworn to uphold the Constitution should be complicit in the mass caging of human beings—an everyday brutality inflicted disproportionately on the bodies and minds of poor people and people of color and for which the legal system has never offered sufficient justification. Usual Cruelty is a profoundly radical reconsideration of the American "injustice system" by someone who is actively, wildly successfully, challenging it.

**The Book of Strange and Curious Legal Oddities** Penguin

Did you hear the one about the crook who broke into a vending machine and then left a trail of cheese curls all the way to his hideout? Or the burglar who left his wallet in an apartment he robbed, and actually went back to get it? Based on the Stupid criminals busted! column in National Geographic kids magazine, this collection of stories about stupid criminals and the ridiculous ways they give themselves away is illustrated with collage art and sprinkled with more than 150 weird-but-true facts about crime.

**Don't Hurt a Sasquatch** Chronicle Books

The Code of Hammurabi is a well-preserved Babylonian law code of ancient Mesopotamia, dating back to about 1754 BC. It is one of the oldest deciphered writings of significant length in the world. The sixth Babylonian king, Hammurabi, enacted the code, and partial copies exist on a man-sized stone stele and various clay tablets. The Code consists of 282 laws, with scaled punishments, adjusting "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth" (lex talionis) as graded depending on social status, of slave versus free man. Nearly one-half of the Code deals with matters of contract, establishing, for example, the wages to be paid to an ox driver or a surgeon. Other provisions set the terms of a transaction, establishing the liability of a builder for a house that collapses, for example, or property that is damaged while left in the care of another. A third of the code addresses issues concerning household and family relationships such as inheritance, divorce, paternity, and sexual behavior. Only one provision appears to impose obligations on an official; this provision establishes that a judge who reaches an incorrect decision is to be fined and removed from the bench permanently. A few provisions address issues related to military service. Hammurabi ruled for nearly 42 years, c. 1792 to 1750 BC according to the Middle chronology. In the preface to the law, he states, "Anu and Bel called by name me, Hammurabi, the exalted prince, who feared Marduk, the patron god of Babylon (The Human Record, Andrea & Overfield 2005), to bring about the rule in the land." On the stone slab there are 44 columns and 28 paragraphs that contained 282 laws. The laws follow along the rules of 'an eye for an eye'.

**Weird Alberta Laws** Graymalkin Media

Did you know that in the state of Indiana it is illegal to be sexually aroused in public? Or that forgetting to close a gate is against the law in Nevada; or that shaking carpets in the street is strictly forbidden in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Thankfully the law which states that all London taxi drivers must carry a bale of hay or sack of oats was repealed in 1976! You can find out about these and a further ninety-seven ridiculous laws from all around the World in this hilarious collection. Compiled by Jeff Koon and Andy Powell from their website dumblaws.com, You May Not Tie an Alligator to a Fire Hydrant will astonish, possibly outrage and certainly amuse law-abiding citizens everywhere.

**The Power Law** Rowman & Littlefield

Wacky Laws, Weird Decisions, & Strange Statutes Sterling Publishing Company, Inc.

**Oh, Florida!** Gareth Stevens Publishing LLLP

You're probably breaking the law right now--and don't even know it. Did you know... ? Naples, Italy, enforces laws for what

constitutes real pizza, and "pizza police" visit restaurants to crack down on unlawful pies? ? In West Virginia it is a crime to display or possess a red or black flag? ? It is illegal to sell stuffed articles depicting female breasts within a thousand feet of any county highway in California? ? Spherical fishbowls have been banned in Rome since 2004? There are hundreds of bizarre laws that we could be breaking at any moment. What exactly are we doing that we shouldn't be doing, and what happens if we get caught? In this engaging and insightful collection, Nathan Belofsky takes us on a journey of eclectic, unexpected, and bizarre laws from around the world. Written by a practicing lawyer with an eye for his profession's most unusual quirks, *The Book of Strange and Curious Legal Oddities* offers a delightful look at the legal system's peculiarities through the ages. From laws that crack down on how we eat, look, and have sex, to real legal battles involving litigious chimpanzees, you'll start wondering whether you're really the law-abiding citizen you claim to be.

#### **This Is My South** Penguin

The twentieth anniversary edition of one of the most controversial books ever published on race and language is now more relevant than ever in this season of racial reckoning—from "one of our most important and perceptive writers on race" (*The Washington Post*). In addition to a brave and bracing inquiry into the origins, uses, and impact of the infamous word, this edition features an extensive new introduction that addresses major developments in its evolution during the last two decades of its vexed history. In the new introduction to his classic work, Kennedy questions the claim that "nigger" is the most tabooed term in the American language, faced with the implacable prevalence of its old-fashioned anti-Black sense. "Nigger" continues to be part of the loud soundtrack of the worst instances of racial aggression in American life—racially motivated assaults and murders, arson, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and workplace harassment. Consider this: twenty years ago, Kennedy wrote that any major politician credibly accused of using "nigger" would be immediately abandoned and ostracized. He was wrong. Donald Trump, former POTUS himself, was credibly charged, and the allegation caused little more than a yawn. No one doubted the accuracy of the claim but amidst all his other racist acts his "nigger-baiting" no longer seemed shocking. "Nigger" is still very much alive and all too widely accepted. On the other hand, Kennedy is concerned to address the many episodes in which people have been punished for quoting, enunciating, or saying "nigger" in circumstances that should have made it clear that the speakers were doing nothing wrong—or at least nothing sufficiently wrong to merit the extent of the denunciation they suffered. He discusses, for example, the

inquisition of Bill Maher (and his pathetic apology) and the (white) teachers who have been disciplined for reading out loud texts that contain "nigger." He argues that in assessing these controversies, we ought to be more careful about the use/mention distinction: menacingly calling someone a "nigger" is wholly different than quoting a sentence from a text by James Baldwin or Toni Morrison or Flannery O'Connor or Mark Twain. Kennedy argues against the proposition that different rules should apply depending upon the race of the speaker of "nigger," offering stunningly commonsensical reasons for abjuring the erection of such boundaries. He concludes by venturing a forecast about the likely status of "nigger" in American culture during the next twenty years when we will see the clear ascendance of a so-called "minority majority" body politic—which term itself is redolent of white supremacy.

#### Scholastic Canada

Curious about what you can and can't do across the continental U.S.? Don't eventhink about putting salt on a railroad track in Alabama; you could be arrested and sentenced to die. And ladies, it's illegal for married women in Florida to parachute on Sundays. Read about more of these strange and wacky laws in *Weird U.S. Laws*:

- In Memphis, you aren't allowed to share your pie nor can you take home any leftover pie
- Motorists in Alabama are prohibited from driving their vehicles while blindfolded
- Oregon banned self-serve gas bars in 1951, so it is illegal for anyone to pump gas into a car in that state, although motorcycles and boats are exempt
- Talk about courtesy patrol: in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, a police officer who suspects a couple is having sex in a vehicle must honk the patrol car horn threetimes and wait two minutes before approaching the vehicle
- In Carver County, Minnesota, airplanes, hot air balloons or any other flying apparatus aren't allowed to take off or land in public parks; shooting off toy rockets is also against law
- Bad news for the hairy: in Omaha, Nebraska, a man is not allowed to "runaround" with his chest shaved
- Keep that car on the road in Quitman, Georgia, because it's illegal for cars to drive on sidewalks. Oddly, it's also illegal for chickens to cross the road!
- Resist that music! In New Hampshire, patrons in bars are not permitted to tap their feet to the music
- In Arkansas you can't keep your alligator, or alligators as the case may be, in your bathtub
- In Washington State, it's against the law to use "X-ray, fluoroscopic or other equipment or apparatus employing roentgen rays" to fit that perfect shoe; the only people allowed to view the bones in your feet are licensed health practitioners
- Since 1919 in Michigan, it has been illegal for anyone to kill an animal by electrocution or by using a high altitude decompression chamber
- If you plan to tie your elephant to a parking meter in Florida, you must pay the fee as you would for any vehicle. And so many more!

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