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Law Library Blog (April 2016): Legal Beagle's Blog Archive

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Legal Beagle's Post

Library News: Week of April 4, 2016

Posted by Library Blog on 04/01/2016 at 01:29 PM

Motivation & Stress Reduction



As the semester winds down, remember the new Motivation Wall in the library as a source for quick inspiration. For those needing something more, the [Stress Management, Mindfulness and Wellness](#) LawGuide can help you find ways to manage your end of semester stress.

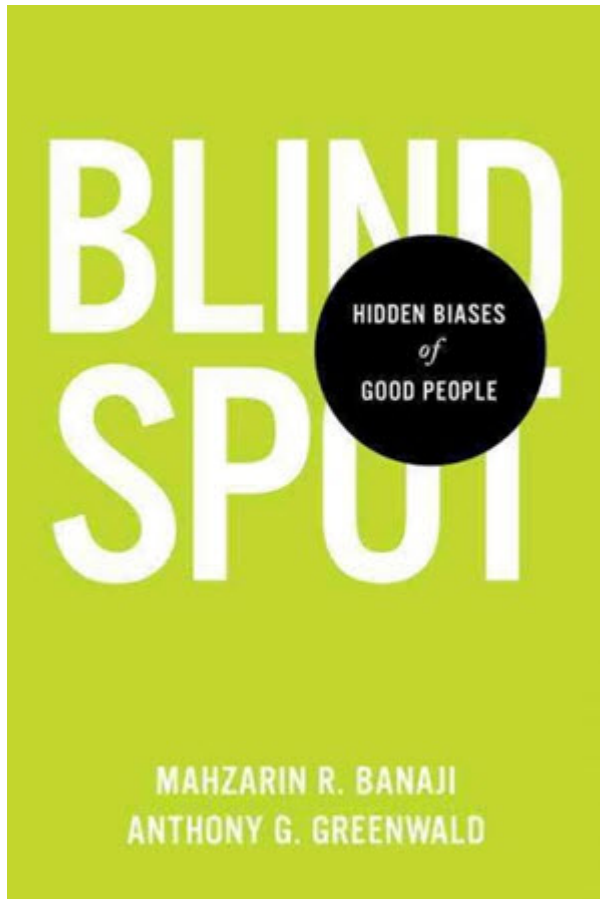
Legal Beagle's Post

Blindspot

Posted by Library Blog on 04/01/2016 at 01:43 PM

On Thursday, April 14, 2016 from 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm the RWU School of Law presents its seventh lecture in the [Thurgood Marshall Memorial Lecture Series](#).

Mahzarin Banaji, the Richard Clarke Cabot Professor of Social Ethics of the Harvard University Department of Psychology, and co-author of [Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People](#), will present the keynote address at this event.



According to the [book's website](#), the title of the book is a metaphor. The authors use the term blindspot to “capture that portion of the mind that houses hidden biases” and the term good people to represent those “who strive to align their behavior with their good intentions.”

The book discusses the [Implicit Association Test](#) (IAT) at length. The IAT “measures the strength of associations between concepts (e.g., black people, gay people) and evaluations (e.g., good, bad) or stereotypes (e.g., athletic, clumsy).” If you are interested in taking an IAT or learning more about it, see the website of [Project Implicit](#). Project Implicit is a non-profit organization whose [goal](#) is to educate us all about hidden biases and “to provide a ‘virtual laboratory’ for collecting data on the Internet.”

If you would like to learn more about the topic of hidden bias, [Blindspot](#) is available in our collection. Also available in our collection are other titles on this topic including [Everyday Bias: Identifying and Navigating Unconscious Judgments In Our Daily Lives](#) (insert link to) and [Implicit Racial Bias Across the Law](#).

A guide on “[Cultural & Diversity Understanding in Practice](#)” is available from the RWU Law Library with even more sources of information related to this topic.

Legal Beagle's Post

Library News: Week of April 11, 2016

Posted by Library Blog on 04/08/2016 at 09:13 AM

Celebrate National Library Week



National Library Week is the one week a year that we stop and appreciate all things library-related. Join us as we take time this week to express gratitude to our dedicated student library workers, our awesome patrons, and our always ready to help you full-time library staff.

Legal Beagle's Post

Love your Library!

Posted by Library Blog on 04/08/2016 at 09:52 AM

The week of April 10-16 is [National Library Week](#). National Library Week is the one week a year that we stop and appreciate all things library-related. Here at the RWU Law Library we will be taking time out to express gratitude to our dedicated student library workers, our amazing full-time library staff, and our awesome patrons. Thank you all!

It is sometimes easy to overlook all that the library does and is in the life of the law school. This is especially true if you are not one of the patrons who come to study in the library every day. The library's role expands beyond the doors of the physical library. Not only does the library provide a quiet refuge, a meeting place, and study rooms, but we maintain the research resources and expertise needed to successfully engage with and study the law.

We maintain an active social media presence with a [blog](#), the Legal Beagle, a [Twitter account](#), a [Facebook page](#), and a [Pinterest page](#).

We participate in formal instruction in person and online through the LP curriculum, with our Prepare for Practice Program, and at various other times throughout the school year with school organizations and in classes. Informally, we are available for research consultations to students, student groups, faculty, RWU law alumni, licensed attorneys, and members of the RWU academic community by phone, in person, via email, and on [chat](#).

The librarians prepare and update online resources in the form of [LawGuides](#) and by presenting access to [subscription databases](#) maintained by the library staff. Finally, our library provides a team of dedicated workers, both student and full-time, who are always willing to help whenever and wherever we are able.

Please take time to stop by the RWU Law Library during National Library Week 2016. There will be a few fun surprises as well as the dedicated team of library workers who would appreciate a thank you for the hard work they do!



Legal Beagle's Post

Library News: Week of April 18, 2016

Posted by Library Blog on 04/14/2016 at 02:11 PM

Extended Reading / Exam Period Hours



The library's extended hours for reading and exam period start April 22. They have been posted on the law library website at <http://law.rwu.edu/library/about-library/hours> .

Legal Beagle's Post

In(famous) Murder Cases

Posted by Library Blog on 04/14/2016 at 03:21 PM

If you are not a native of Southern New England, you may not be familiar with the details of the [Lizzie Borden case](#). Lizzie Borden allegedly murdered her parents in 1892. A trial, in which Lizzie was acquitted, followed soon thereafter. Lizzie Borden is commemorated by a nursery rhyme, albeit a bloody one:

Lizzie Borden took an axe
And gave her mother forty whacks.
When she saw what she had done,
She gave her father forty-one.

The crime, and her alleged part in it, have been featured in songs, television shows, movies, books, plays, video games, and graphic novels. There is even a [Lizzie Borden Bed and Breakfast Museum](#).

The book display currently featured in the library contains books about the Lizzie Borden trial as well as other books and e-books in our collection about murder, homicide, and manslaughter trials. Information about the titles in the display can be found on our [LawGuide](#) or on our [Pinterest page](#).

If you are looking to further study what happens during a trial, consider LexisNexis Courtroom Cast, a resource available through the Law Library. To create your free student account, [click here](#) and then proceed to the "Sign Up" link at the top of the screen. Courtroom Cast provides easy access to footage of real trials, audio files of selected significant opinions, and video clips to help students learn evidence, trial practice and oral advocacy. Signing up for and using Courtroom Cast is easy.



Legal Beagle's Post

Stress Management

Posted by Library Blog on 04/22/2016 at 08:25 AM

The good news is that you have made it to exam time and the bad news is that sometimes exam time can be stressful. The library's collection contains resources in print and online that provide information on how to help manage exam stress.

For example, [*The Zen of Law School Success*](#) discusses how to achieve and maintain balance in law school and includes selections on doing well on final exams, including specific strategies and tips for both essay and multiple choice exams. If you prefer a more straightforward (and less law school-related) resource, the library's e-book collection includes [*Stress Management for Dummies*](#) which includes sections about breathing, posture, imagery and meditation.



Last semester we released an online LawGuide about [Stress Management, Mindfulness and Wellness](#). This guide features resources in the library and outside the library to encourage mental wellness. The last page of the LawGuide is a [photo tour of reflective spaces](#) on the RWU Campus (pictures by the library's own Kathleen MacAndrew!).

Finally, we have a well-stocked coloring book collection. While there are some colored pencils and coloring pages in the stacks, there are also crayons, doodling books, and other coloring supplies which can be borrowed at the circulation desk.

Breathe deeply, think positive thoughts, and good luck on exams!

Legal Beagle's Post

Legally Chocolate

Posted by Library Blog on 04/26/2016 at 02:49 PM

A book came across my desk recently and its title sparked immediate interest. It is called [Legally Chocolate: A Confection of Cocoa in the Courts](#). According to the back of the book, “[e]ach chapter focuses on interesting legal cases or regulations relating to chocolate, using authentic, relevant, and amusing case law and references that are sure to sweeten the reader's experience” (pun intended?).

Indeed, if you flip through the pages of this book you will find interesting chocolate-related cases! In particular, I enjoyed reading about the so-called Bunny Wars of Austria. If you think the Bunny Wars of

Austria are made up, check out this [Wall Street Journal article](#) about them. Interested in who won the confectionary showdown, see [this post](#) on a confectionary industry news website. If you think the buck stopped at bunnies, you would be [un-bear-ably](#) wrong. Maybe the saga of the Goldbären will be featured in the sequel to *Legally Chocolate*?

To locate *Legally Chocolate* and other resources in our collection, go to our [WebCatalog](#). More information about [borrowing library materials](#) can be found on our website. To read up on other chocolate IP legal battles beyond the book, the law blog [IPcopy](#) (which is written by IP attorneys at Keltie LLP or K2 IP Limited) has an interesting [summary of cases](#) on this topic.



