University of Birmingham

Dr Leon McRae

Lecturer

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About

Dr Leon McRae's is a mental health lawyer; his research primarily explores the legal and medical regulation of psychopathy. He also looks at the framing of responsibility in the criminal law, particularly in respect of developments in neuroscientific research. Leon is also interested in aspects of Healthcare Law, continental philosophy, socio-legal theory, criminological theories and non-commercial aspects of Sports Law.

Feedback and office hours

Semester 1: Tuesday, 2-4pm

Semester 2: Monday, 1-3pm

If you can't make these times, please e-mail me to arrange an appointment (l.mcrae@bham.ac.uk (mailto:l.mcrae@bham.ac.uk))

Qualifications

- PhD (University of Nottingham)
- MA in Socio-legal and Criminological Research (University of Nottingham)
- LLB (University of Leicester)

Biography

Dr Leon McRae joined Birmingham Law School in 2011, having previously taught at Keele University and the University of Nottingham.

Dr McRae completed his LLB at the University of Leicester with first class honours, before being awarded an Economic and Social Research Council studentship to undertake postgraduate study at the University of Nottingham. In 2007, he received an MA in Socio-legal and Criminological Research (with distinction). In 2011, he was awarded a doctorate, after completing his thesis on 'The Rehabilitation of Personality Disordered Offenders: A Foucauldian Analysis'.

Teaching

- Criminal Law (LLB)
- Criminal Law and Medicine (LLM)
- Mentally Disordered Offenders (LLM - module leader)

Postgraduate supervision

- Mental Health Law
- Criminal Law
- Health Care Law
- Sports Law (undergraduate)

Leon McRae is currently supervising a doctoral student undertaking research in the area of dementia research and mental capacity law.

Research

Dr Leon McRae's research interests are in Mental Health Law (the criminal context), Criminal Law, Health Care Law, continental philosophy, criminological theories and socio-legal theory. He has a particular interest in the legal and medical governance of criminal psychopaths. In 2013, his article 'Rehabilitating Antisocial Personalities: Treatment through Self-Governance Strategies' was awarded Best Overall Publication flowing from work during doctoral studies or as part of a doctoral dissertation by the Institute of Mental Health, based in Nottingham. The work was based on an Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)-funded study looking into the therapeutic, legal and relational consequences of treating criminal psychopaths in secure hospital settings under the Mental Health Act 1983.

Other activities

- Deputy Director of Postgraduate Research Programmes
- Fellow of the Institute of Mental Health, Nottingham

Publications

Articles and book chapters:

- McRae, L. (*in press,* 2014) Forensic neuropsychology: the legal implications. *In*: A. Beech, A. J. Carter, R. Mann & P. Rothstein (eds). *The Wiley Handbook of Forensic Neuroscience*. John Wiley & Sons: Chichester (c. 11,000 words)
- McRae, L. (*in press,* 2014) 'M'Naghten Rules', 'Just Deserts' and 'Expert Witnesses'. *In*: P. Taylor, K. Corteen and S. Morley (eds). *A Dictionary of Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Risk*. The Policy Press: University of Bristol
- McRae, L (2013) Mental health nursing: the legal perspective. *In*: J. Tingle & A. Cribb (eds). *Nursing Law and Ethics*. Wiley-Blackwell, 4th ed., pp. 201-235
- McRae, L. (2013) 'Admitting offenders with antisocial personality disorder to a medium secure unit: a qualitative study of multidisciplinary team decision-making.' *Journal of Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology*, 24(2): 215-232.
- McRae, L. (2013) 'Rehabilitating antisocial personalities: treatment through self-governance strategies.' *Journal of Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology,* 24(1): 48-70.
- McRae, L. (2009) 'Withholding Medical Records without Explanation: A Foucauldian Reading of Public Interest.' *Medical Law Review*, 7: 438-46.
- McRae, L. (2009) 'Assessing the Viability of Treatment Rights for Offenders with Personality Disorder'. *Personality and Mental Health*, 3: 172-82 (c. 8,000 words).

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