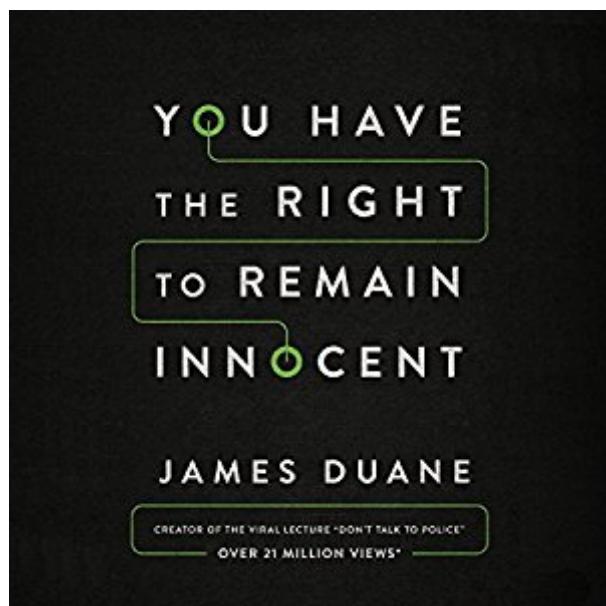


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# You Have The Right To Remain Innocent



## **Synopsis**

Law professor James J. Duane became a viral sensation thanks to a 2008 lecture outlining the reasons why you should never agree to answer questions from the police - especially if you are innocent and wish to stay out of trouble with the law. In this timely, relevant, and pragmatic new book, he expands on that presentation, offering a vigorous defense of every citizen's constitutionally protected right to avoid self-incrimination. Getting a lawyer is not only the best policy, Professor Duane argues, it's also the advice law-enforcement professionals give their own kids. Using actual case histories of innocent men and women exonerated after decades in prison because of information they voluntarily gave to police, Professor Duane demonstrates the critical importance of a constitutional right not well or widely understood by the average American. Reflecting the most recent attitudes of the Supreme Court, Professor Duane argues that it is now even easier for police to use your own words against you. This lively and informative guide explains what everyone needs to know to protect themselves and those they love.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Professor Duane was one of my law professors, and as a criminal defense attorney, I wish every American would read this book. Prof. Duane mixes his brilliant legal scholarship with his trademark humor in this brief overview of what to do when a police officer asks cheerfully, "You don't mind answering a few questions, do you?" The book shows how even the innocent - especially the

innocent - should decline to talk to the police, and invoke their rights immediately. The book is an easy enough read that even someone with no legal background will understand it, but also offers insight for practicing attorneys.

Wow. I knew these tactics and techniques were used by law enforcement, I never knew how much simple statements could be woven into a guilty sentence for the most innocent. James Duane gives examples, case studies with excellent reference section that's also worth reading. I'd recommend this book to everyone but most especially to young people, teens, who may not be aware of their rights and the power of words.

This is a must-read for everyone. The author eloquently explains how the justice system works, and how to navigate it most effectively (ask for a lawyer unambiguously) (and really more broadly how the justice system isn't out to help you). The system not only can misrepresent what you say, it will use what you said (even if it's true) against you. Not only that, but the laws in the US are so broad that you almost certainly have unknowingly committed a federal crime (even if the "crime" is ridiculous. something that no person using common sense could possibly think even is a crime, like rescuing a sea turtle from a net) and so it is all the more imperative to ask for a lawyer when being questioned.

Everyone should take the time to read this. It's short enough that the average person can read it in just a few hours. Mr. Duane provides a number of examples that quite obviously prove that we should exercise our 5th and 6th amendment rights even (and maybe especially) when we think we can just "talk our way out" of an issue.

I like many purchased this book strictly because of how well spoken and informative the author was in his Youtube series "Never talk to cops". This book has example after example after example of the lunacy of some of our laws and how people have gotten caught up screwing themselves into LONG sentences that were totally avoidable in many instances. This book is truly eye opening when it comes to how the law works AGAINST your common sense. I (like the author said) recommend EVERY young person read this book. After they're done reading the book, pass it to a friend! This is one of the books that absolutely should trade hands so more people can learn what happens behind the scenes with law enforcement. **TOTALLY RECOMMEND THIS ONE!**

Superb book on the basics of dealing with police/agents/deputies/troopers, when they question you

(read: "interrogate you") or pay you a visit at your home to "clear up a few things" (read: "lie to your face, and attempt to trick you or intimidate you into speaking with them in order to nab you on perhaps a bogus 18 USC section 1001(a) charge, etc."). Since it's an introductory book, in my humble opinion, it unfortunately misses discussing important points such as, for example, "as soon as possible, begin video (or audio) recording the conversation with the cops" or "while you're video recording the 'interview,' ask each of the officers/agents for their full name, their badge numbers, and the agencies they work for [imho, it's even better to politely insist that they give you their business cards, so you have their full names (to put in the complaint, if necessary) and the street location they work at, in case you (and your attorney) need it to serve them with the summons and the complaint (i.e., process) in the future using a process server]."*Umesh Heendeniya*

Sixth Amendment and to avoid the Fifth Amendment, unless you are arrested. And it also explains why: Being silent can be used against you. Saying I want a lawyer doesn't imply that you are trying to hide something. It says that you don't want to get entangled into incriminating evidence with the police. You can be incriminating yourself and not know it. The police use all sorts of tricks to get you to talk. They do not have to record everything you say, and may even distort your statements. One word can change the meaning of what you say. So, James Duane says, keep repeating, "I want a lawyer" until the police see that you mean business. And, say it firmly! Not meekly, like you are asking a question.

I'm a former attorney and judge, but only briefly worked in criminal defense - and I learned a lot in this short, entertaining book about how the criminal justice system works (or, in too many tragic cases, doesn't) for those who get caught up in it. Hopefully this is advice most people will never need, but (1) if you do, you'll be glad to have it, and (2) even if you don't, we all would prefer to live in a society where justice feels, well, Just, and being familiar with the issues facing many stands as a call to reform, so that innocent people don't have to worry about becoming victims themselves. Mr. Duane does a great survey of the law in the field, and presents it in a way which is informative for anyone who doesn't deal regularly with criminal law, and is as accessible for lay readers as it is for practitioners. I feel his tone infers that most police are out to trip up the innocent public (though he denies any disrespect for law enforcement), and he really is not a fan of federal investigators, but his intention is clearly to urge consistent exercise of the right to remain silent (and to have the assistance of an attorney), to ensure you don't get tripped up in case you do happen to encounter an overzealous officer.

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