
Negotiating Responsibility



Law and Society Series

W. Wesley Pue, General Editor

The Law and Society Series explores law as a socially embedded phenomenon. It is premised on the understanding that the conventional division of law from society creates false dichotomies in thinking, scholarship, educational practice, and social life. Books in the series treat law and society as mutually constitutive and seek to bridge scholarship emerging from interdisciplinary engagement of law with disciplines such as politics, social theory, history, political economy, and gender studies.

A list of the titles in this series appears at the end of this book.

Kimberley White

Negotiating Responsibility:
Law, Murder, and States of Mind



UBCPress · Vancouver · Toronto

© UBC Press 2008

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without prior written permission of the publisher, or, in Canada, in the case of photocopying or other reprographic copying, a licence from Access Copyright (Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency), www.accesscopyright.ca.

16 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in Canada on ancient-forest-free paper (100% post-consumer recycled) that is processed chlorine- and acid-free, with vegetable-based inks.

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

White, Kimberly (Kimberly-Jo), 1966-

Negotiating responsibility : law, murder, and states of mind / Kimberly White.

(Law and society)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-7748-1276-4

1. Insanity (Law) – Canada. 2. Competency to stand trial – Canada. 3. Mentally ill offenders – Canada. 4. Murder – Canada. I. Title. II. Series: Law and society series (Vancouver, B.C.)

KE8841.W45 2007

345.71'04

C2007-905475-7

KF9242.W45 2007

Canada

UBC Press gratefully acknowledges the financial support for our publishing program of the Government of Canada through the Book Publishing Industry Development Program (BPIDP), and of the Canada Council for the Arts, and the British Columbia Arts Council.

Printed and bound in Canada by Friesens
Set in Stone by Artegraphica Design Co. Ltd.
Copy editor: Deborah Kerr
Proofreader: Dallas Harrison
Indexer: David Luljak

UBC Press

The University of British Columbia
2029 West Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2
604-822-5959 / Fax: 604-822-6083
www.ubcpres.ca

*For my grandmothers, Joyce White
and Helen Bailey*