taken as universal despite the lack of systematic validity studies in non-European populations. In particular, he launched an onslaught on the diagnosis of schizophrenia.

In this new edition, he rightly pays greater attention to social anthropological attempts to look at notions of normality and abnormality, the concept of the self and non-biomedical systems of therapy. Again he attempts to integrate ideas on 'race' (Western and politico-economic) with those on 'culture' (less overtly theorised here), but does not go far enough: in certain situations racism itself becomes an indigenous culture, whereas culture itself is less autonomous, more fleeting and more politically determined than many anthropologists once allowed for. At times Fernando relies too much on tertiary sources and sometimes rather romantic 'Afrocentrist' literature, and the absence of good narratives about patients and their healing (or otherwise) experiences is to be regretted. His preference for a 'holistic' perspective recalls good old-fashioned functionalism of a systems-theory kind, and he is a little harsh on colonial anthropology for apparently neglecting individual experience in Africa (what of Goody, Prince, Sow, Field and Fortes?), but he is quite on top of the usual suspects such as Lévy-Bruhl and Carothers.

I was most disappointed in his rather promising section on integrating non-Western healing with psychiatry. With a little on East Asian healing practices in the West (Naikan, Morita, acupuncture), it is rather uncertain how we might proceed with assimilating, say, 'African healing' (or Caribbean or Eastern European healing) into mental health in the way that French *ethnopsychiatrie* has done. But that perhaps is not for psychiatrists alone to determine.

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Care of the Mentally Disordered Offender in the Community

Edited by Alec Buchanan. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2002. 334 pp. £29.50 (pb). ISBN 0 19 263058-X

Alec Buchanan has assembled a high-class list of contributors for this book. His brief preface explains both its strength and weakness. He expresses surprise at 'the degree to which the contributors have noted the same things and interpreted them differently'. He chose not to intervene because 'both within disciplines and across them, this is a subject where a range of ideas have currency'. I think that he is wrong. He should have been a more active conductor. The ensemble of solo artists (sociologists, policy gurus, psychiatrists, psychologists and lawyers) from the UK, USA and Australia has produced a series of learned essays (and here I include Professor
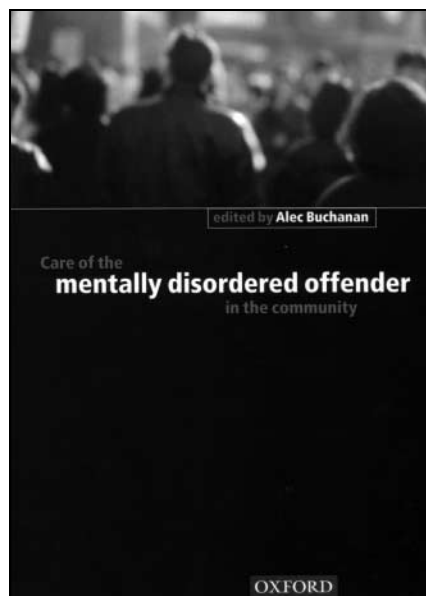
Mullen's introduction) but I found the absence of structure irritating.

I do not mean to be harsh, another reader might disagree with my analysis, but by the end of the book I sat back and wondered what it was really about! Professor Mullen draws together most of the contributions under the risk assessment and risk management umbrella. Perhaps the care of the mentally disordered offender in the community can be distilled down to risk assessment and risk management, but the subject of the book is, I believe, larger than this. For example, the chapter 'Society, madness and control', written by Nikolas Rose, a professor of sociology, is much more wide-ranging. Similarly, Alec Buchanan, in his chapter 'Who does what? The relationship between generic and forensic psychiatric services', is particularly challenging in questioning the role of specialist services for the community care of mentally disordered offenders. It is right to ask such questions, but where is the historical context? Why has forensic psychiatry developed as the speciality it is today? Although Buchanan does not address this issue, an excellent contribution from Ian Jewesbury & Andrew McCulloch in part answers this question.

It is deeply unsatisfying that the contributors were allowed to go about their work without direction and I am disappointed that I cannot be more positive about the book as a whole. Nevertheless, I do recommend that all of those involved in the care of mentally disordered offenders consider this book. Most of the individual chapters are excellent and thought-provoking, offering interesting perspectives on this form of community care. It is a volume that I suggest you dip into rather than read from cover to cover.

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Creating Mental Illness

By Allan Horwitz. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press. 2002. 264 pp. $32.50 (hb). ISBN 0 226 35381 8

This book enters the familiar debate that questions whether the diagnoses of psychiatry reflect true disease entities or whether, as many sociologists claim, they