The model of youth justice established under the Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act was considered innovative and original when established in 1989. Since then, the complex and often challenging system has been the subject of much discourse, but has never been the focus of a standalone text.

Youth Justice in New Zealand is the first and only book to comprehensively address the law, theory and practice behind the New Zealand youth justice system. This long awaited analysis extensively discusses the principles, legislation and policies governing the operation of the youth justice system, as well as exploring practice and procedure in the distinctive Youth Court jurisdiction.

The book also critiques the recent major reforms to the system, including the new powers to prosecute children and the new and expanded Youth Court orders, breaking down the changes and providing current guidance.

The work will be an invaluable resource for lawyers, police, policy-makers and students of the law, as well as those working in related fields such as criminology, social work and public policy.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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...there has been no single self contained text book which has thoroughly explained and discussed youth justice law and practice in New Zealand. This helpful text fills that long standing gap. It provides a detailed overview and discussion of New Zealand’s entire youth justice system. It has been long awaited.

...This text will be very useful for all those involved within the youth justice system, including youth advocates, judges, police and Child, Youth and Family practitioners, and also those with policy responsibility for youth justice initiatives. No doubt it will quickly become recognised as the starting point for all discussions about the Act and its operations.

Andrew Becroft
Principal Youth Court Judge