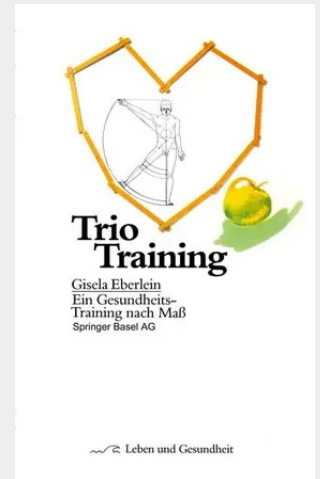


Language in the Judicial Process

Legal realism is a powerful jurisprudential tradition which urges attention to social conditions and predicts their influence in the legal process. The relatively recent "social science in the law" phenomenon, in which social research is increasingly relied on to decide court cases is a direct result of realistic jurisprudence, which accords much significance in law to empirical reports about social behavior. The empirical research used by courts has not, however, commonly dealt with language as an influential variable. This volume of essays, coedited by Judith N. Levi and Anne Graffam Walker, will likely change that situation. *Language in the Judicial Process* is a superb collection of original work which fits well into the realist tradition, and by focusing on language as a key variable, it establishes a new and provocative perspective on the legal process. The perspective it offers, and the data it presents, make this volume a valuable source of information both for judges and lawyers, who may be chiefly concerned with practice, and for legal scholars and social scientists who do basic research about law.

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