

HARD TO PLACE **A Crime of Alcohol**

by Katherine Norgard

with a foreword by Sr. Helen Prejean, Author of *Dead Man Walking*

This is a story to break any mother's heart and that every mother can relate to.

Linda Ronstadt, Musician

Dr. Norgard's first person account of her son's death row experiences offers a compelling insight into the quicksand of criminal justice. But there is much more here: a mother's effort to discover at the eleventh hour her son's pre-adoption medical history and how to use that history to save his life, a gripping description of the chasm between law and medicine.

Judge Rudy Gerber, Arizona Court of Appeals (retired)

As a psychologist, Dr. Norgard set out to pursue a proper diagnosis aimed at validating her son as a human being. From a broad base of knowledge, she draws us into her story of a devoted mother fighting to save her son. She unveils an adoption process that did not disclose her son's history of in-utero exposure to the effects of alcohol, which can cause permanent brain damage and is the number one preventable cause of mental retardation. Her expertise and thoughtful account confronts the intellectual gap between medical disorders and legal consequences. We find our own beliefs challenged with this disparity.

Francis L. Moore, M.D., Medical Director, Cottonwood de Tucson

Kathy Norgard's book gives a unique personal and professional insight into the difficulties a family faces when a loved one is charged with a capital crime. As a mental health professional, she uses her personal experiences to illustrate how mental disabilities, and fetal alcohol syndrome in particular, relate to our nation's capital punishment system. As a mother, she reveals a love for her family and illustrates a side of the death penalty that is rarely considered.

Jeffrey L. Kirchner, Professor of Law, CUNY School of Law



Katherine Norgard, Ph.D. is a clinical psychologist and psychodrama practitioner. She teaches at Arizona State University, consults internationally and at Cottonwood de Tucson, a substance abuse/psychiatric inpatient facility. She has a limited private practice and works with political refugees for the Hopi Foundation Center for Prevention and Resolution of Violence, in addition to her advocacy work in the community.

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