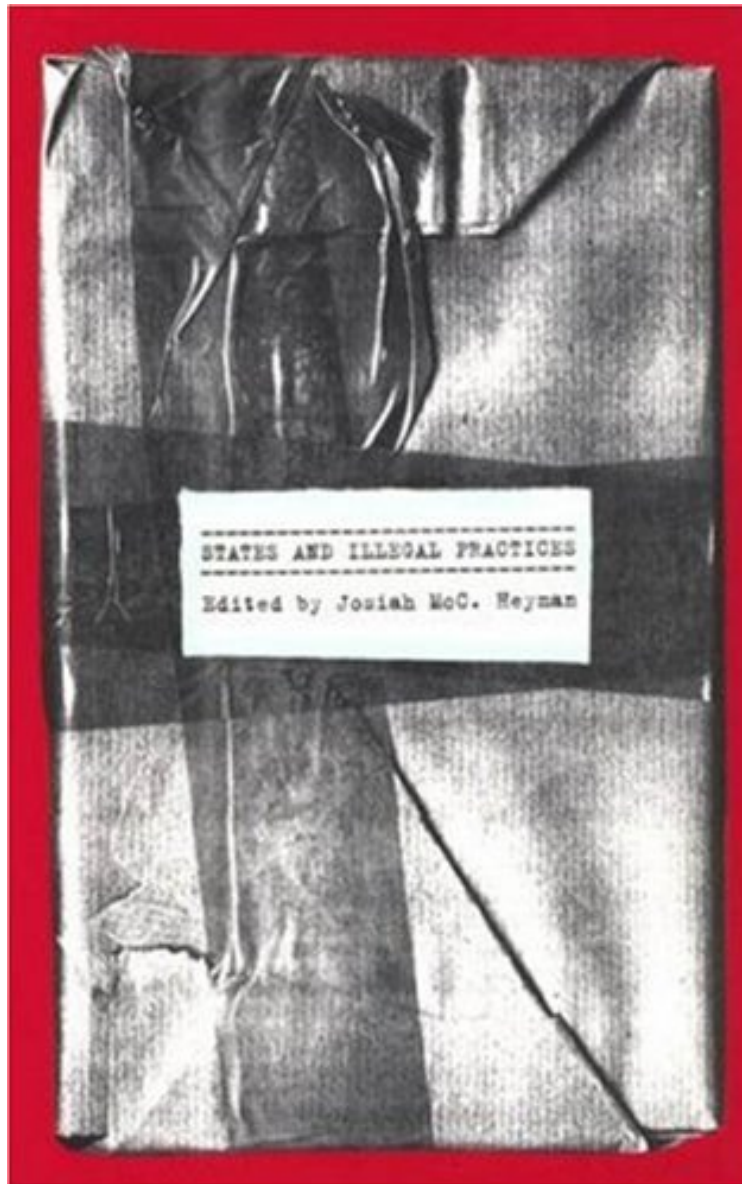


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Joining theories of states and state formation with theories of illegal practices, this pioneering book traces the unholy

alliance of official practices with criminality. Criminal subcultures, mafias and gangs have been the subject of a great deal of attention, as have formal policy approaches of the state. However, the interaction of state police apparatuses with illegal practices has been neglected, despite the recent Foucauldian emphasis on discourses of power, order and disorder. Written by leading experts in the fields of anthropology and history, this book asks why illegal practices -- including corruption and protection rackets -- do not disappear, but continue to thrive. It examines the development of transnational illegal networks, such as the narcotics trade and the new trade in environmentally restricted commodities, as well as how culture, ethnicity and economic considerations drive illegal practices and influence state policy. Wide-ranging in scope, this interdisciplinary book will appeal to anyone studying the sociology of crime and of the state, political science, criminal justice and the law, the anthropology of law and of the state and the history of crime.

States and Illegal Practices deserves a wide readership. Justice cannot be done here to the ten contributions that make up this book . . . An excellent edited collection. *British Journal of Criminology* A breath of fresh air for those sociologists and criminologists interested in the various relationships formed between states and criminals. *Contemporary Sociology* An evasion-based theory of policy and state transformation probably would require distinctions to be made between corruption and other forms of rule evasion, and between short-term and long-term effects. *States and Illegal Practices* provides much raw material for further developments along these lines. and interested researchers should buy, beg, borrow - but not steal - a copy. *American Journal of Sociology* About the Author Josiah Heyman is a member of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, at the University of Texas at El Paso.