

BOOK REVIEW

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*A Review of *The Testimony of Teeth**

REFERENCE: Rogers, S. L., *The Testimony of Teeth*, Charles C Thomas, 2600 S. First St., Springfield, IL 62794-9265, 116 pp., \$27.50.

The oft-quoted saying "You cannot judge a book by its cover" holds true once again. Should potential purchasers of this book go further than the dust cover description of its contents, they should prepare for a disappointment.

This book contains 89 pages of poorly organized, and at times rambling text, covering the subjects of dental anatomy, oral pathology, dental identification, bite marks, and mass disaster identification. The author states in the introduction "The purpose of this book is to briefly describe the methods by which teeth and their supporting structures are examined and analyzed with a view to identification with legal or emotional objectives." The word "briefly" should be in bold print.

The 33 illustrations are, for the most part, poorly executed hand drawings. Others are of varying degrees of better quality; however, they have little value to the professional.

The one item of value is the extensive bibliography; however, the acquisition of the book for that purpose alone is questionable as well as expensive.

The audience for whom this book is intended remains a mystery. It is certainly not the undergraduate, definitely not the graduate student, and positively not the professional forensic scientist.

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