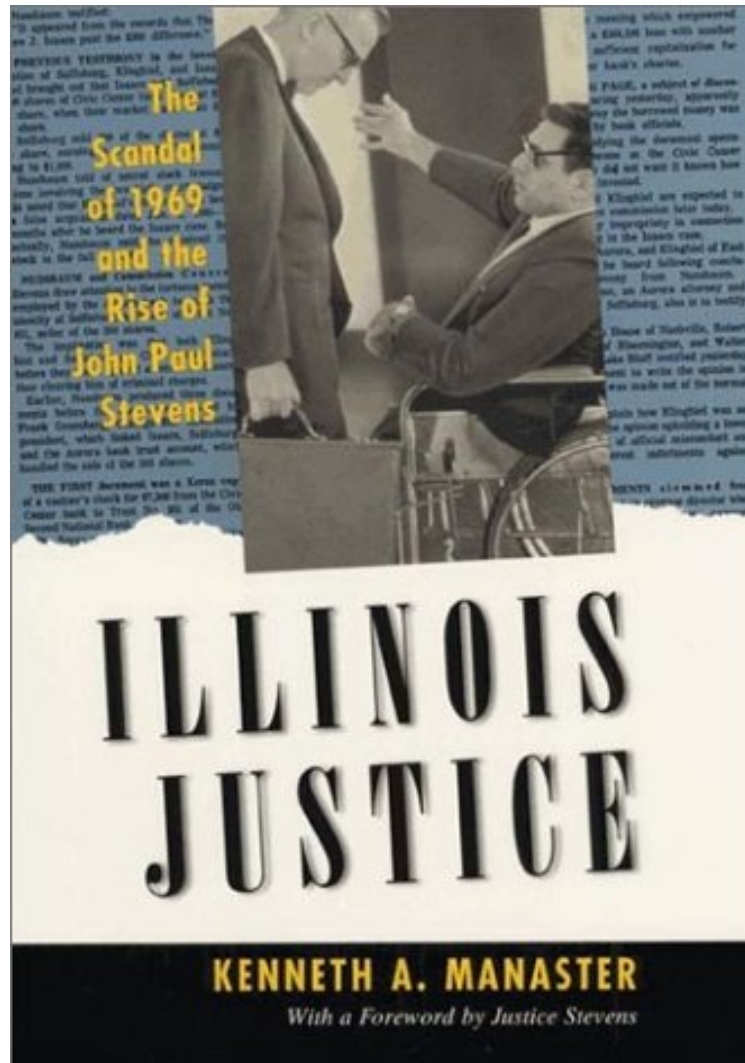


(Get free) Illinois Justice: The Scandal of 1969 and the Rise of John Paul Stevens

Illinois Justice: The Scandal of 1969 and the Rise of John Paul Stevens

Kenneth A. Manaster

ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook



[Download](#) [Read Online](#)

#2315966 in Books 2001-09-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.00 x 6.00, 1.29 #File Name: 0226502430336 pages | File size: 78.Mb

Kenneth A. Manaster : Illinois Justice: The Scandal of 1969 and the Rise of John Paul Stevens before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Illinois Justice: The Scandal of 1969 and the Rise of John Paul Stevens:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great read! Illinois Justice is a fast-paced By ChefA great read! Illinois Justice is a fast-paced, meticulously researched retelling of the scandal that rocked the Illinois Supreme Court in 1969. The lively narration and unbiased approach makes this book accessible to anyone interested in law, politics, ethics, or investigative journalism, but I think it would be particularly inspiring to students studying in those areas

because it reveals just how much impact lawyers and journalists can have when they stay true to the moral codes of their professions. 12 of 14 people found the following review helpful. When Independent Counsel Had Integrity

By A Customer

Manaster's book is an extraordinary exploration into the original intent of the independent counsel's function without the political agendas that have come to contaminate its usefulness in recent years. In careful detail, Manaster describes how Stephens tailored the proceedings to investigate and answer questions related to one incident and one incident only. By avoiding an open ended fishing expedition, justice worked with economy and integrity to bring down a corrupt judiciary. Manaster's careful attention to detail is a textbook study on how to investigate and conduct an inquiry of this nature and importance. It's telling how Kenneth Starr's name is never mentioned in Manaster's book nor are any contemporary incidents yet a previous reviewer has read some bias into Manaster's book. Far from the truth. This is as truthful and straightforward a presentation as you can get. The cast of characters is worthy of a movie, from powerful liable attorney's nervous about taking on powerful politicians to an alienated gadfly devoted to seeing justice done. It's an extraordinary period piece as we witness the Chicago Democratic Convention violence simultaneously with the rise of one of the great judicial thinkers of our time. This a must read for anyone involved in proceedings of this weight and general readers who have lost hope in the judicial system's ability to find the truth. This book proves it can be done.

3 of 42 people found the following review helpful. A Book That Should be a Footnote

By Todd Kincannon

This book, as its title indicates, details a scandal in the Illinois judiciary in 1969. A local political rabble-rouser found evidence that two state supreme court justices were corrupt. Future U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice John Paul Stevens led a special investigation into the matter and eventually forced the resignation of the two justices. A book on this sort of topic is certainly not likely to be suited for a wide audience, and this book is no exception. However, it would be worthwhile as a piece of historical literature if not for the implicit (and explicit) liberal bias. As other reviewers have noted, parts of the piece are simply attacks on Kenneth Starr and his investigation of President Clinton. It is a shame that a book on such a narrow topic would be so filled with bias, since it is likely no other book will ever be written on this incident that will neutralize the bias. If you're a liberal ideologue, which you probably are if you're interested in John Paul Stevens, buy this book. I'm not, and therefore found the book to be basically useless.

Illinois political scandals reached new depths in the 1960s and 70s. In *Illinois Justice*, Kenneth Manaster takes us behind the scenes of one of the most spectacular. The so-called Scandal of 1969 not only ended an Illinois Supreme Court justices aspirations to the US Supreme Court, but also marked the beginning of little-known lawyer John Paul Stevens rise to the high court. In 1969, citizen gadfly Sherman Skolnick accused two Illinois Supreme Court justices of accepting valuable bank stock from an influential Chicago lawyer in exchange for deciding an important case in the lawyers favor. The resulting feverish media coverage prompted the state supreme court to appoint a special commission to investigate. Within six weeks and on a shoestring budget, the commission mobilized a small volunteer staff to reveal the facts. Stevens, then a relatively unknown Chicago lawyer, served as chief counsel. His work on this investigation would launch him into the public spotlight and onto the bench. Manaster, who served on the commission, tells the real story of the investigation, detailing the dead ends, tactics, and triumphs. Manaster expertly traces Stevens masterful courtroom strategies and vividly portrays the high-profile personalities involved, as well as the subtleties of judicial corruption. A reflective foreword by Justice Stevens himself looks back at the case and how it influenced his career. Now the subject of the documentary *Unexpected Justice: The Rise of John Paul Stevens*, Manaster's book is both a fascinating chapter of political history and a revealing portrait of the early career of a Supreme Court justice.

From *Publishers Weekly*

In the hot summer of 1969, two judges from the Illinois State Supreme Court were accused of accepting gifts in exchange for a favorable verdict in a pending case. For the special commission set up to look into the charges, the chief investigator was a relatively unknown attorney named John Paul Stevens. As Manaster demonstrates in this well-researched (though overly lawyerly) account of the scandal, the case made Stevens famous and eventually propelled him all the way toward the U.S. Supreme Court. Manaster, a then-novice lawyer who worked on the commission, meticulously recounts both the unfolding of the scandal in the press and Stevens's probe. He then guides the reader through the many ins and outs of Stevens's arguments in the public hearings (ultimately, Stevens proved misconduct and both judges resigned). Unfortunately, this is dry material mainly of interest to legal scholars and historians. Manaster does provide some drama, as when Stevens forces one of the judges to confess that he used his influence to try and enroll his son in the National Guard and keep him out of Vietnam. But moments like this are rare in a book that reads too much like a summary of newspaper articles and court transcripts, instead of the compelling first-person narrative it could have been. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the book is its implicit criticism of Kenneth Starr's investigation of Bill Clinton; both Manaster and Stevens himself (in an enlightening foreword) make stark comparisons between the two cases. (Manaster says that Stevens ran a short-term, narrowly focused, and bipartisan investigation, in contrast to Starr). 20 bw photos not seen by PW. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

From *Booklist*

Manaster, a law professor, takes an Illinois political scandal of local significance and

reveals its national implication in catapulting the career of a future U.S. Supreme Court justice. In the late 1960s, Sherman H. Skolnick, a political gadfly, was looking into the possible improprieties of a presiding state Supreme Court justice and a political operative who was also a defendant in a matter before the court. The operative had some influence over a bank in which the justice held shares. By the time this molehill of a story was revealed, a mountain of scandal was unearthed. A special commission was empanelled and headed by John Paul Stevens, a competent but obscure antitrust lawyer. The investigation of possible judicial impropriety took place in a highly charged political environment and resulted in the resignation of two state Supreme Court jurists and major judicial reform in Illinois. Stevens was later appointed to the Federal Appeals Court and eventually to the U.S. Supreme Court. Manaster shows how the interplay between major local papers and political powers compromised the fourth estate. Vernon Ford

Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved An extraordinary, clear-headed and powerful book.