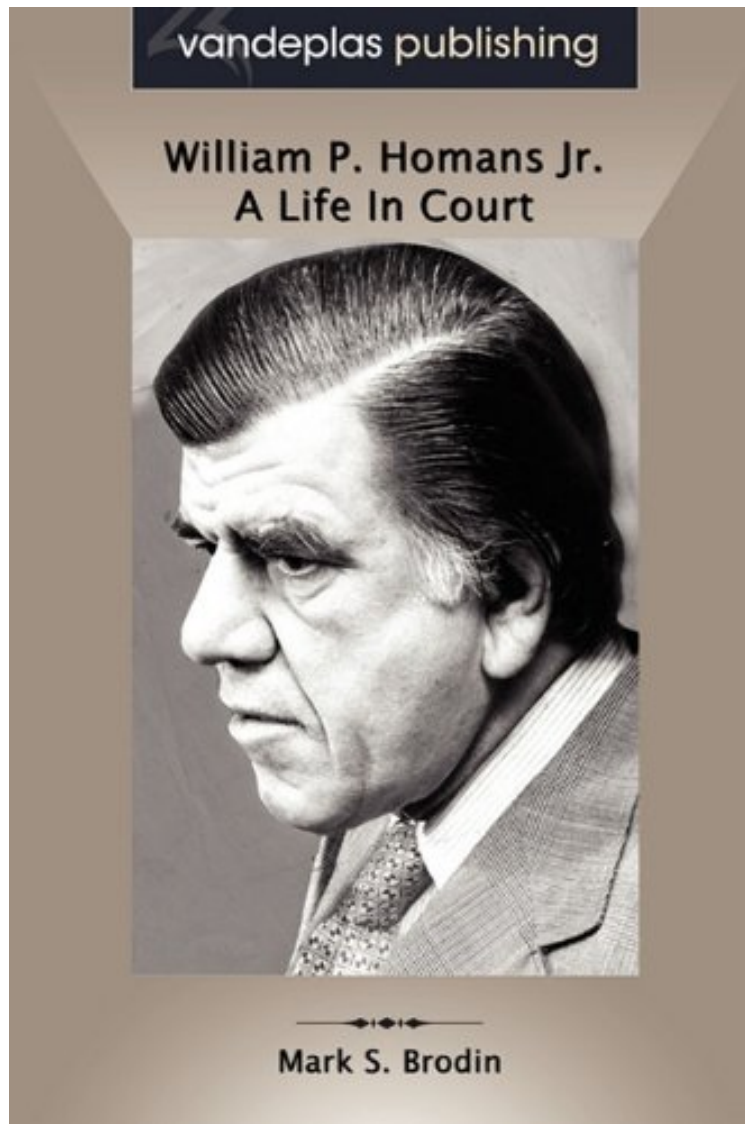


[Read free ebook] William P. Homans Jr.: A Life In Court

William P. Homans Jr.: A Life In Court

Mark S. Brodin

**Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#3417209 in Books Vandep拉斯 Publishing 2010-01-14Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.21 x .67 x 6.14l, .99 #File Name: 1600420915320 pages | File size: 76.Mb

Mark S. Brodin : William P. Homans Jr.: A Life In Court before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised William P. Homans Jr.: A Life In Court:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An Icon and a figurehead by whom to be inspiredBy Peter HomansMy parents (Bill Homans, and his wife, my mother, Ann Beecher) were divorced when I was two, so I have the interesting perspective on this man and this book of something resembling a third party, not a son of the man. It is a great read, not because he was my father (see previous disclaimer), but because he was an icon and a figurehead for me, as well as for so many people in need over so many generations. And because the years in which he worked his

best were the formative years of MY whole generation-the 50's, 60's, and 70's particularly),To me, the most remarkable aspect of the book is the discovery that even if one is the finest (as he was) criminal lawyer in the world, one's win/loss numbers are negative-one loses far more often (as he did on a motion for dismissal early in the Spock Trial which I attended, with one of his completely cogent and accurate arguments/motions, which was denied, from ANY clear reading of the proceedings out of "pique" by His Honor Frank Ford in what was ultimately a victory for the defendants)And that speaks to the absolute devotion truly great criminal lawyers MUST bring to the table. One of his partners, proteges-however he may namelessly be monikered, made the following comment about Bill's devotion:"He was like a pancreatic oncologist, who, after struggling against insuperable odds, lost his patient, and rather than dispassionately going to Maison Robert for a convivial rehash/cocktail with his associates, went out and found three more similarly beleaguered patients."Its a great book about one of the supreme defense lawyers of this or any age.,Peter Parkman Homans-son-62-Asheville, NC-Have purchased it for myself, my children and many others on .0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. My Father, One of the Great Attorneys of the History of the United StatesBy Bill HomansThis is my father. He was one of the most eminent civil-rights attorneys of the 20th century. This biography shows how this two-Navy World War Two hero (he sayw Nazi Germany in 1938 as a 17-year-old Harvard student, the guest of Hitler's personal secretary Fritz "Putzi" Hanfstaengl, a Harvard man in the early part of the century. He knew what to fight) towered over the legal profession in Massachusetts. But Mark Brodin, a professor of Law from Boston College, does not shrink from detailing his chaotic, often unsatisfactory (to him) personal life, and the continuing economic and marital problems Dad had that are the reasons why Bill Homans never became a Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, though he was twice the unchosen finalist. A very well-balanced and well-researched historical biography of a truly GREAT attorney who was the only civilian attorney to go to Vietnam and defend in a capital case. His military client was found not guilty.I am the bluesman Watermelon Slim. I have had many award nominations, and have won several major awards in my field. My own biography is in progress. But if I won a hundred Blues Music Awards, I could never fill the giant shoes of William P. Homans Jr. Attorney.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Inspirational read for lawyers and law studentsBy Harvey A SchwartzBill Homans was a classic civil rights lawyer, and a gentleman, both of the old school. He was an inspiration to many lawyers in Massachusetts and across the nation as a person who devoted his life, sometimes to his personal detriment, to the glorious public service role of legal practice. This book describes Mr. Homans' life without pulling any punches from the sad and self-damaging aspects of his personality. By addressing Mr. Homans' flaws, however, his strengths and contributions to civil liberties are even more remarkable. There are lessons to be learned from this book, lessons about how to use the law to make life better for individuals and for American society, and warnings about the importance of making space for your personal needs outside your law practice. This is a readable, entertaining book highly recommended for anybody involved in the legal system, from law students to practitioners to judges. Mr. Homans trained many young lawyers, myself included. Now that he is gone, this book will allow that training to continue.

Boston lawyer William P. Homans Jr. devoted his fifty-year career to the defense of the poor and downtrodden, the protection of our most basic civil liberties, and the abolition of the death penalty. Descendant of two of Boston's oldest and most prominent families, and combat veteran of both the British and American Navies during World War II, Homans became unlikely guru to the 1960s generation of radical lawyers and antiwar activists. He was on the defense team in the 1968 conspiracy trial of Dr. Benjamin Spock and four other leading opponents of the Vietnam War accused of aiding and abetting resistance to the military draft, and represented Dr. Kenneth Edelin in the 1975 manslaughter prosecution arising out of a lawful abortion performed after *Roe v. Wade*. The narrative contrasts Bill Homans' storied legal career with a troubled personal life in a balanced but unvarnished manner, testifying to the strength of the human spirit when committed to the pursuit of the common good. About the author: Mark S. Brodin is Professor of Law at Boston College Law School and the author of numerous books and law journal articles in the areas of civil and criminal procedure, evidence, litigation, and employment discrimination. A graduate of Columbia College (1969) and Columbia Law School (1972), he served as law clerk to United States District Judge Joseph L. Tauro and staff attorney with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights in Boston. He has also practiced for brief periods as a public defender in Boston and a prosecutor in Norfolk County.

With graceful prose and a steady beat, the author gives us the full measure of a masterful lawyer and the important legal battles he fought. While Boston is the venue for this fascinating and well-researched account of Bill Homan's life-long defense of civil rights and liberties, the book guides the reader through mid-twentieth century national debates over abortion, sexual rights, capital punishment, and racial justice. Homans (although to the manor born) was there, Brodin takes us back there, and in the process dissects the enduring magic, craft, and art of brilliant courtroom advocacy. Margaret A Burnham,Professor of Law and Director, Civil Rights Restorative Justice Project, Northeastern University School of Law With meticulous research and law professor's gift for telling it as it is, Mark Brodin brings Bill Homans to life.Committed to social justice in practice as well as theory, over a long career he usedthe skills of a

superb tactician to serve the poor, the despised and the dispossessed. Homans' legacy speaks vividly to any lawyer or activist willing to battle complacency, scapegoating and bias. Michael Meltsner, George J. and Kathleen Waters Matthews Distinguished University Professor of Law, author of *Cruel and Unusual: The Supreme Court and Capital Punishment* and *The Making of a Civil Rights Lawyer*. Professor Brodin has created a masterpiece of legal biography. His book is a compellingly readable, and inspirational, portrait of a great attorney, a man so many of us knew and loved as young lawyers. Equally importantly, the book presents a dramatic, in-the-trenches picture of our American system of justice as it actually works, from the perspective of one of its finest practitioners. Michael A. Ponsor, U.S. District Judge and author of the New York Times best-selling novel, *The Hanging Judge*. About the Author Brodin is a Professor of Law at the Boston College Law School.