BOOK REVIEW

Rolf Loeber and Brandon C. Welsh (eds). *The future of criminology*

New York: Oxford University Press, 2012, 278 pages

Brian Burtch

Published online: 20 September 2013

© Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht 2013

This ambitious collection of 33 chapters is prefaced by the editors' overview of Professor David P. Farrington's illustrious career as well as a glimpse into the man behind the body of work. This glimpse includes many tributes to his generous mentoring of colleagues and graduate students and his sustained interest in rigorous scholarship that reaches well beyond academic circles into communities and various levels of government policies. The tone of the collection is respectful, warm, even amusing, with Alex R. Piquero asking, "What do Keith Richards, Jimmy Page, and David P. Farrington have in common? Aside from the fact that they are all British and enjoy rock and roll: they are all Officers of the British Empire" (p. 113). Professor Farrington provides a brief foreword, acknowledging the work of earlier criminologists and paying tribute to a short list of 10 scholars—Alan Watson, Donald West, Nigel Walker, Lee Robins, Joan McCord, Marvin Wolfgang, Alfred Blumstein, Albert Reiss, Lloyd Ohlin, and James Q. Wilson—who inspired his work and were critical in the development of his career and the establishment of fast friendships over many decades.

The Future of Criminology is divided into five general parts: development and causation, criminal careers and justice, prevention, intervention and treatment, and lastly, public policy strategies. These five parts span essential aspects of criminological research, tied together with an overarching objective of promoting refined scholarship with on-the-ground applications that are results-oriented and evidence-based. The 47 contributors range from acclaimed criminologists to emerging scholars, all of whom have been influenced by Professor Farrington's work. The chapters introduce some rich theoretical conceptualizations combined with rigorous, longitudinal research studies as well as cross-sectional studies. The content is multidisciplinary, drawing on prominent research projects as well as more recent initiatives and approaches. There is considerable range across the chapters, making it a valuable resource for academic criminologists and to practitioners interested in academic and

B. Burtch (⋈)

School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada e-mail: burtch@sfu.ca

